

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE SURVIVORS  
AND DEPENDENTS OF THE BATTLE OF CRETE

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the survivors and dependents of the Battle of Crete, May 20th, 1941. On that morning sixty years ago, Nazi military forces invaded the island of Crete through air, land and sea. This would be one of the many times where the proud people of Crete have been called to defend their land and their strong belief in freedom.

As waves of German paratroopers landed on the Cretan soil, men, women and children fought with what little they had to defend against advancing fascist oppressors. During the first day of the invasion the Nazi military suffered high losses. The German military encountered a vicious resistance that they had not expected. Hitler's elite 7th Parachute Division had suffered casualties from an opponent who was equipped with knives and homemade weapons. The bombings that occurred in the cities such as Chania, Rethimnon, and Herakleion did not lower the morale of the people but strengthened their will to defend the island.

The Nazi forces took nine days to finally conquer the island and endured a heavy number of casualties. The Cretan people sought refuge in the mountains and staged a resistance that continued on until the final defeat of the Germans in 1945.

The Battle of Crete is viewed by many as significant in delaying Hitler's attack on the Soviet Union and hastening the defeat of the Nazi regime of World War II. The achievements of Cretan soldiers were praised by the Allied Powers and gave hope to those who struggled against the Nazi oppressors. More than twenty-five thousand Cretans lost their lives in the battle and the Nazi occupation that followed. Their villages were burnt to the ground as reprisals for their continued resistance while mass executions of women, children, and the elderly became a daily event. The Nazis were forced to place a large number of troops in the region due to the continued resistance from the heroic Cretans. Their bravery and willingness to sacrifice their lives for the well being of future generations deserves to be honored by all defenders of freedom and democracy.

This year, the 60th year anniversary of the Battle of Crete, President Nikolaos Kastrinkis and the members of the Cretan Association "Omonoia", President Voula Vomvolakis and the members of "Pasiphae", President George Motakis and the members of "Labrys" President Emmanuel Michelakis and the members of "Minos", President Emmanuel Polychronis and the members of "Idomeneas", President Emmanuel Piperakis and the members of "Brotherhood", President Dinis Mastorakis

and the members of "Kazantzakis" and President Evangelos Xenakis and the members of "Philoxenia" will honor these brave guardians of freedom.

It is our duty to preserve and honor their memory and heroic actions that brought forth the defeat of oppression and fascism. The freedom that we now enjoy became possible in part by the blood shed by these heroes. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a small island with brave inhabitants that significantly contributed to the preservation of our freedom today.

TRIBUTE TO HIS BEATITUDE  
GREGORY III (LAHAM) PATRIARCH OF ANTIOCH AND ALL THE EAST, OF ALEXANDRIA AND JERUSALEM

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the Melkites, or Byzantine Eastern rite Catholics of Middle Eastern origin, are the descendants of the early Christians of Antioch whose presence is a witness to the universality of the Catholic Church. Although the Melkites are concentrated in Syria, Lebanon, the Holy Land, and the Middle East, the United States has served as a welcoming home to the Melkite tradition and community for decades. On Sunday, May 13, 2001, the Melkite community of Michigan and Our Lady of Redemption Church of Warren, St. Joseph Church of Lansing, and St. Michael Church of Plymouth had the distinguished honor of hosting His Beatitude Gregory III, Melkite Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, of Alexandria and Jerusalem as part of his first official visit to the United States.

Patriarch Gregory III Laham, elected on November 29, 2000 as the new Patriarch of Antioch and all the East, of Alexandria and Jerusalem, is the leader of the one million faithful Melkites belonging to the Eastern-rite Church. His Beatitude's contributions have made history in the Melkite community. He is the founder of the Magazine Al-Wahdah—Unity in the Faith, the first ecumenical magazine published in the Arabic language. He is also founder of the Cenacle of Jerusalem, an independent intellectual movement of the Holy Land, and author of several books and articles about the Eastern Church. Building youth centers in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, and Rafidia, he has worked hard to create an environment for young Palestinian Christians to gather, meet, and work together. He has been involved in numerous activities to provide assistance for those in need. These efforts include: establishing the Student Fund for college education assistance; the Baby Center for medical care and health supervision for over 7000 Christians, Muslims, and Jews; and Dental Clinics throughout the region. Additionally, he has captivated audiences around the

world leading masses, dedications, and religious education services, in his crusade to improve the lives of people through faith.

I applaud the Melkite community of Michigan and the Patriarch Gregory III for their leadership, commitment, and service. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of faith and service, and to pay tribute to His Beatitude as he embarks on this historic visit to the dedicated Melkite communities across the nation.

COMPREHENSIVE ELECTION  
REFORM LEGISLATION NEEDED

SPEECH OF

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 17, 2001*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the events ensuing since last year's election have placed election reform on the top of the priority list of the American people. There is no question that what occurred in Florida following last year highlighted many of the problems in Florida's own election system. But as my colleagues on the Democratic Special Committee on Election Reform will agree, what occurred in Florida last November is not unique. Indeed, it is a microcosm of the problems that exist in nearly every jurisdiction in the United States. The travesties Florida voters faced last November are a representative sample of the problems voters face throughout the United States.

Civil rights violations, lack of provisional ballots, increasing amounts of overvotes and undervotes, uneducated voters and poll workers, outdated voting machines, the purging of the names of eligible voters, confusing ballots, and not enough funding to improve voting systems, are not unique to Florida. These problems are not unique to any city, county, or state in the country. Instead, they are universal problems that exist from state to state, city to city, and precinct to precinct.

While no silver bullet exists, the problems in our country's election system do have solutions. In the past five months, more than 1,500 election reform bills have been introduced in state legislatures across the country, and 31 states have considered or are considering legislation to upgrade or make uniform their voting standards. On May 2, 2001, the Florida State Legislature joined Georgia's General Assembly as the only two bodies in the U.S. to pass comprehensive election reform legislation.

But as states such as Florida and Georgia continue to pass election reform legislation, Members of Congress cannot go home and tell their constituents that help from the federal government is on the way. As of today, help from the federal government is not on the way. In the 107th Congress, 28 bills and two resolutions addressing some aspect of election reform have been introduced. 16 bills and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

two resolutions have been introduced here in the House of Representatives, and 12 bills have been introduced in the Senate. Yet despite the overwhelming support for election reform, Congress has not acted on any piece of election reform legislation. Even more, just last week, the House and the Senate both passed budgets that provide no funding for election reform.

On top of that, the Bush Administration has not only refused to make election reform a priority, but it has also refused to even comment on it. At a meeting with the Congressional Black Caucus eleven days into his presidency, President Bush indicated that he intended to make election reform a priority of his Administration. This promise, however, has been nothing more than words. Election reform is an issue that demands presidential leadership in order to succeed. President Bush has not been up to the task.

In order for election reform in this country to be a success, a partnership must be forged between the states and the federal government. Improving voting systems and investing in voter education programs is not cheap. It costs money—a lot of money. It is disheartening to think that as states revise and revamp their election systems, the federal government is not there to assist them in their efforts. It is both unfair and unrealistic for states to spend millions of dollars updating their election systems and incur the associated costs without the federal government helping out. I am confident that state legislatures will continue to address the specific problems that exist in their state's election system, but I am less optimistic that Congress, under Republican leadership, will take the necessary steps to reinstall America's confidence in its election process. If Congress does not play a part, particularly in the area of funding, then it is almost certain that the majority of these state initiated election reform programs will fall well short of satisfactory.

We have a unique opportunity here in Congress to reassure every American that he or she will never be denied the right to vote. Congress can create universal standards that do not infringe upon a state's authority to oversee its own election process, and at the same time, ensure that every vote is counted. Former President Jimmy Carter has gone so far as to say, "The Carter Center has standards for participation as a monitor of an election, and the United States of America would not qualify at all." This is more than embarrassing, it is shameful.

In the coming weeks, Congress must address the problems that exist in the American election process. Congress needs to pass a universal provisional ballot measure that requires poll workers to offer any person not appearing on the eligible voters list the opportunity to cast a provisional ballot. In addition, Congress needs to pass a universal anti-purging measure to reinforce the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. Congress also needs to provide funding to states to assist them in the upgrading of their election programs. Finally, Congress needs to address other possible means of election reform including universal poll closing times, lengthening the amount of time Americans have to vote, the counting of military and overseas ballots, and voter and poll worker education and training.

Mr. Speaker, time is running out for Congress to pass meaningful election reform legis-

lation. America's election process has fallen under the scrutiny of the people it seeks to empower. Without the support of the federal government, not matter how much legislation states pass and how hard states attempt to reassure their citizens that the problems of Election 2000 have been solved, voters will remain skeptical. People will walk away from the polls wondering if their vote will count. This cannot happen. If Congress does not act immediately, then the lessons learned from the disasters of last year's election will be lost. Quite frankly, this is not something the people of South Florida and the rest of the country want to hear.

#### RECOGNIZING THE IEEE MILESTONE AWARD

#### HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers in recognizing and paying tribute to the achievements of those involved in electronic technology as part of our nation's space program from 1950 to 1969.

As was originally stated in President John F. Kennedy's "Special Message to the Congress on Urgent National Needs," delivered on May 25, 1961, our space program was an effort of monumental proportions in terms of scientific advancement, financial commitment, individual dedication, as well as personal and organizational sacrifice. The dividend of the efforts represented by this IEEE Milestone designation and other honors is the peace, without nuclear confrontation, which our nation and others throughout the world have been so blessed to have experienced.

As this is the 37th IEEE Milestone designation in the world, and the only one to recognize the United States space program, we applaud the advances in electrical and electronics engineering which this international honor represents.

The citation for the Milestone plaque is as follows:

#### ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY FOR SPACE ROCKET LAUNCHES, 1950-1969

"The demonstrated success in space flight is the result of electronic technology developed at Cape Canaveral, the Kennedy Space Center, and other sites, and applied here. A wide variety of advances in radar tracking, data telemetry, instrumentation, space-to-ground communications, on-board guidance, and real-time computation were employed to support the U.S. space program. These and other electronic developments provided the infrastructure necessary for the successful landing of men on the moon in July 1969 and their safe return to earth."

I urge all of my colleagues to join with me as we celebrate this IEEE Milestone which recognizes the men and women of our nation's space program.

HONORING COMMUNITY SERVICE  
AWARD WINNER JUDY BLUESTONE

#### HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, June 4, Judy Bluestone will be honored with the 2001 Community Service Human Relations Award by the Milwaukee Chapter of the American Jewish Committee.

This award is given to those individuals who have demonstrated outstanding service and leadership, two qualities that are exemplified in Judy's work within her community. Since moving to Milwaukee in 1985, she has exhibited a tireless dedication to numerous worthy causes throughout the area.

A mother of two, Judy has always been concerned with the needs of young children. She is on the board of the Betty Brinn Children's Museum as well as Start Smart Milwaukee, a child advocacy organization. Her love for the arts is shared with children through her work with the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra.

However, Bluestone works with more than children in Milwaukee's artistic community. She is beginning her third term on the Milwaukee Arts Board, and also devotes her time and energy to the Artist Series and Skylight Opera Theater. In 1995 she was appointed co-chair of the United Performing Arts Fund's annual campaign.

Judy's tireless effort on behalf of such organizations as the United Way and the National Council of Jewish Women has garnered her a number of awards and distinctions. She is a recipient of Israel's Golda Meir Award and the Metropolitan Milwaukee Civic Alliance Award. In 1999 she was elected president of the Women's Division of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation. Her outstanding contributions to the causes that she holds dear serve as a model for community activism that few of us could live up to.

And so it is my great pleasure to join the American Jewish Committee, as well as all those whose lives she has touched, in congratulating 2001 Community Service Human Relations Award winner Judy Bluestone on this richly deserved honor.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 15TH AN- NIVERSARY OF MACOMB COUN- TY'S RETIRED AND SENIOR VOL- UNTEER PROGRAM

#### HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 15th anniversary of one of Macomb County's most helpful and caring volunteer organizations, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Since 1986, they have been providing outstanding assistance to seniors in and around my district.

An organization of senior citizens and retirees, the RSVP's mission is to provide independent living assistance to other seniors. They serve an invaluable role in the community as peer companions and aides. Whether

they are delivering meals, helping administratively at senior centers, or just playing chess with a lonely patient, the volunteers of the Macomb RSVP are helping return the luster to the golden years of so many of our senior citizens.

I would like to thank each and every one of the volunteers who give their time and energy through the RSVP. They take advantage of their good health, good natures, and good hearts to assist those not as blessed by circumstance. To those they visit and assist, they truly are one of life's blessings.

I urge my colleagues to not only recognize Macomb County's RSVP group on their 15 years of service, but also to seek out, and if necessary take an active role in creating a Retired and Senior Volunteer Organization in other communities, and support their efforts to care for our elder population.

#### THE GOOD SAMARITAN VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2001

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act of 2001." This legislation removes a barrier which has prevented some organizations from donating surplus fire fighting equipment to needy volunteer fire departments. Under current law, the threat of civil liability has caused some organizations to destroy fire equipment, rather than donating it to volunteer, rural and other financially-strapped departments.

We know that every day, across the United States, firefighters respond to calls for help. We are grateful that these brave men and women work to save our lives and protect our homes and businesses. We presume that these firefighters work in departments which have the latest and best firefighting and protective equipment. What we must recognize is that there are an estimated 30,000 firefighters who risk their lives daily due to a lack of basic Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). In both rural and urban fire departments, limited budgets make it difficult to purchase more than fuel and minimum maintenance. There is not enough money to buy new equipment. At the same time, certain industries are constantly improving and updating the fire protection equipment to take advantage of new, state-of-the-art innovation. Sometimes, the surplus equipment may be almost new or has never been used to put out a single fire. Sadly, the threat of civil liability causes many organizations to destroy, rather than donate, millions of dollars of quality fire equipment.

Not only do volunteer fire departments provide an indispensable service, some estimates indicate that the nearly 800,000 volunteer firefighters nationwide save state and local governments \$36.8 billion a year. While volunteering to fight fires, these same, selfless individuals are asked to raise funds to pay for new equipment. Bake sales, pot luck dinners, and raffles consume valuable time that could be better spent training to respond to emergencies. All this, while surplus equipment is being destroyed.

In states that have removed liability barriers, such as Texas, volunteer fire companies have received millions of dollars in quality fire fighting equipment. The generosity and good will of private entities donating surplus fire equipment to volunteer fire companies are well received by the firefighters and the communities. The donated fire equipment will undergo a safety inspection by the fire company to make sure firefighters and the public are safe.

We can help solve this problem. Congress can respond to the needs of volunteer fire companies by removing civil liability barriers. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation and look forward to working with the Judiciary Committee to bring this bill to the House Floor.

This bill accomplishes this by raising the current liability standard from negligence to gross negligence.

#### CAN TESTERS PASS THE TEST?

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, the House is about to vote on a plan to make annual testing of students from grades 3–8 mandatory throughout the nation. I hope that no one will vote on that proposal before reading the following excellent report on the great difficulties involved in implementing a national program of annual testing.

[From The New York Times, May 20, 2001]

RIGHT ANSWER, WRONG SCORE: TEST FLAWS TAKE TOLL

(By Diana B. Henriques and Jacques Steinberg)

One day last May, a few weeks before commencement, Jake Plumley was pulled out of the classroom at Harding High School in St. Paul and told to report to his guidance counselor.

The counselor closed the door and asked him to sit down. The news was grim, Jake, a senior, had failed a standardized test required for graduation. To try to salvage his diploma, he had to give up a promising job and go to summer school. "It changed my whole life, that test," Jake recalled.

In fact, Jake should have been elated. He actually had passed the test. But the company that scored it had made an error, giving Jake and 47,000 other Minnesota students lower scores than they deserved.

An error like this—made by NCS Pearson, the nation's biggest test scorer—is every testing company's worst nightmare. One executive called it "the equivalent of a plane crash for us."

But it was not an isolated incident. The testing industry is coming off its three most problem-plagued years. Its missteps have affected millions of students who took standardized proficiency tests in at least 20 states.

An examination of recent mistakes and interviews with more than 120 people involved in the testing process suggest that the industry cannot guarantee the kind of error-free, high-speed testing that parents, educators and politicians seem to take for granted.

Now President Bush is proposing a 50 percent increase in the workload of this tiny industry—a handful of giants with a few small rivals. The House could vote on the Bush plan this week, and if Congress signs off, every child in grades 3 to 8 will be tested

each year in reading and math. Neither the Bush proposal nor the Congressional debate has addressed whether the industry can handle the daunting logistics of this additional business.

Already, a growing number of states use these so-called high-stakes exams—not to be confused with the SAT, the college entrance exam—to determine whether students in grades 3 to 12 can be promoted or granted a diploma. The tests are also used to evaluate teachers and principals and to decide how much tax money school districts receive. How well schools perform on these tests can even affect property values in surrounding neighborhoods.

Each recent flaw had its own tortured history. But all occurred as the testing industry was struggling to meet demands from states to test more students, with custom-tailored tests of greater complexity, designed and scored faster than ever.

In recent years, the four testing companies that dominate the market have experienced serious breakdowns in quality control. Problems at NCS, for example, extend beyond Minnesota. In the last three years, the company produced a flawed answer key that incorrectly lowered multiple-choice scores for 12,000 Arizona students, erred in adding up scores of essay tests for students in Michigan and was forced with another company to rescore 204,000 essay tests in Washington because the state found the scores too generous. NCS also missed important deadlines for delivering test results in Florida and California.

"I wanted to just throw them out and hire a new company," said Christine Jax, Minnesota's top education official. "But then my testing director warned me that there isn't a blemish-free testing company out there. That really shocked me."

One error by another big company resulted in nearly 9,000 students in New York City being mistakenly assigned to summer school in 1999. In Kentucky, a mistake in 1997 by a smaller company, Measured Progress of Dover, N.H., denied \$2 million in achievement awards to deserving schools. In California, test booklets have been delivered to schools too late for the scheduled test, were left out in the rain or arrived with missing pages.

Many industry executives attribute these errors to growing pains.

The boom in high-stakes tests "caught us somewhat by surprise," said Eugene T. Paslov, president of Harcourt Educational Measurement, one of the largest testing companies. "We're turned around, and responded to these issues, and made some dramatic improvements."

Despite the recent mistakes, the industry says, its error rate is infinitesimal on the millions of multiple-choice tests scored by machine annually. But that is only part of the picture. Today's tests rely more heavily on essay-style questions, which are more difficult to score. The number of multiple-choice answer sheets scored by NCS more than doubled from 1997 to 2000, but the number of essay-style questions more than quadrupled in that period, to 84.4 million from 20 million.

Even so, testing companies turn the scoring of these writing samples over to thousands of temporary workers earning as little as \$9 an hour.

Several scorers, speaking publicly for the first time about problems they saw, complained in interviews that they were pressed to score student essays without adequate training and that they saw tests scored in an arbitrary and inconsistent manner.

"Lots of people don't even read the whole test—the time pressure and scoring pressure are just too great," said Artur Golczewski, a

doctoral candidate, who said he has scored tests for NCS for two years, most recently in April.

NCS executives dispute his comments, saying that the company provides careful, accurate scoring of essay questions and that scorers are carefully supervised.

Because these tests are subject to error and subjective scoring, the testing industry's code of conduct specifies that they not be the basis for life-altering decisions about students. Yet many states continue to use them for that purpose, and the industry has done little to stop it.

When a serious mistake does occur, school districts rarely have the expertise to find it, putting them at the mercy of testing companies that may not be eager to disclose their failings. The surge in school testing in the last five years has left some companies struggling to find people to score tests and specialists to design them.

"They are stretched too thin," said Terry Bergeson, Washington State's top education official. "The politicians of this country have made education everybody's top priority, and everybody thinks testing is the answer for everything."

#### THE MISTAKE—WHEN 6 WRONGS WERE RIGHTS

The scoring mistake that plagued Jake Plumley and his Minnesota classmates is a window into the way even glaring errors can escape detection. In fact, NCS did not catch the error. A parent did.

Martin Swaden, a lawyer who lives in Mendota Heights, Minn., was concerned when his daughter, Sydney, failed the state's basic math test last spring. A sophomore with average grades, Sydney found math difficult and had failed the test before.

This time, Sydney failed by a single answer. Mr. Swaden wanted to know why, so he asked the state to see Sydney's test papers. "Then I could say, 'Syd, we gotta study maps and graphs,' or whatever," he explained.

But curiosity turned to anger when state education officials sent him boilerplate e-mail messages denying his request. After threatening a lawsuit, Mr. Swaden was finally given an appointment. On July 21, he was ushered into a conference room at the department's headquarters, where he and a state employee sat down to review the 68 questions on Sydney's test.

When they reached Question No. 41, Mr. Swaden immediately knew that his daughter's "wrong" answer was right.

The question showed a split-rail fence, and asked which parts of it were parallel. Sydney had correctly chosen two horizontal rails; the answer key picked one horizontal rail and one upright post.

"By the time we found the second scoring mistake, I knew she had passed," Mr. Swaden said. "By the third, I was concerned about just how bad this was."

After including questions that were being field-tested for future use, someone at NCS had failed to adjust the answer key, resulting in 6 wrong answers out of 68 questions. Even worse, two quality control checks that would have caught the errors were never done.

Eric Rud, an honor-roll student except in math, was one of those students mislabeled as having failed. Paralyzed in both legs at birth, Eric had achieved a fairly normal school life, playing wheelchair hockey and dreaming of become an architect. But when he was told he had failed, his spirits plummeted, his father, Rick Rud, said.

Kristle Glau, who moved to Minnesota in her senior year, did not give up on high school when she became pregnant. She persevered, and assumed she would graduate because she was confident she had passed the April test, as in fact, she had.

"I had a graduation party, with lots of presents," she recalled angrily. "I had my cap and gown. My invitations were out." Finally, she said, her mother learned what her teachers did not have the heart to tell her; according to NCS, she had failed the test and would not graduate.

When the news of NCS's blunder reached Ms. Jax, the state schools commissioner, she wept. "I could not believe," she said, "how we could betray children that way."

But when she learned that the error would have been caught if NCS had done the quality control checks it had promised in its bid, she was furious. She summoned the chief executive of NCS, David W. Smith, to a news conference and publicly blamed the company for the mistake.

Mr. Smith made no excuses. "We messed up," he said. "We are extremely sorry this happened." NCS has offered a \$1,000 tuition voucher to the seniors affected, and is covering the state's expenses for retesting. It also paid for a belated graduation ceremony at the State Capitol.

Jake Plumley and several other students are suing NCS on behalf of Minnesota teenagers who they say were emotionally injured by NCS's mistake. NCS has argued that its liability does not extend to emotional damages.

The court cases reflect a view that is common among parents and even among some education officials: that standardized testing should be, and can be, foolproof.

#### THE TASK—TRYING TO GRADE 300 MILLION TEST SHEETS

The mistake that derailed Jake Plumley's graduation plans occurred in a bland building in a field just outside Iowa City. From the driveway on North Dodge Street, the structure looks like an overgrown suite of medical offices with a small warehouse in the back.

Casually dressed workers, most of them hired for the spring testing season, gather outside a loading dock to smoke, or wander out for lunch at Arby's.

This is ground zero for the testing industry, NCS's Measurement Services unit. More of the nation's standardized tests are scored here than anywhere else. Last year, nearly 300 million answer sheets coursed through this building, the vast majority without mishap. At this facility and at other smaller ones around the country, NCS scores a big chunk of the exams from other companies. What the company does in this building affects not only countless students, but the reputation of the entire industry.

Inside, machines make the soft sound of shuffling cards as they scan in student answers to multiple-choice questions. Handwritten answers are also scanned in, to be scored later by workers.

But behind the soft whirring and methodical procedures is an often frenzied rush to meet deadlines, a rush that left many people at the company feeling overwhelmed, current and former employees said.

"There was a lack of personnel, a lack of time, too many projects, too few people," signed Nina Metzner, an education assessment consultant who worked at NCS. "People were spread very, very thin."

Those concerns were echoed by other current and former NCS employees, several of whom said those pressures had played a role in the Minnesota error and other problems at the company.

Mr. Smith, the NCS chief executive, disputed those reports. The company has sustained a high level of accuracy, he said, by matching its staffing to the volume of its business. The Minnesota mistake, he said, was not caused by the pressures of a heavy workload but by "pure human error caused

by individuals who had the necessary time to perform a quality function they did not perform."

Betsy Hickok, a former NCS scoring director, said she had worked hard to ensure the accurate scoring of essays. But that became more difficult, she said, as she and her scorers were pressed into working 12-hour days, six days a week.

"I became concerned," Ms. Hickok said "about my ability, and the ability of the scorers, to continue making sound decisions and keeping the best interest of the student in mind."

Mr. Smith said NCS was "committed to scoring every test accurately."

#### THE WORKERS—SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT TRAINING

The pressures reported by NCS executives are affecting the temporary workers who score the essay questions in vogue today, said Mariah Steele, a former NCS scorer and a graduate student in Iowa City.

In today's tight labor markets, Ms. Steele is the testing industry's dream recruit. She is college-educated but does not have a full-time job; she lives near a major test-scoring center and is willing to work for \$9 an hour.

For her first two evenings, she and nearly 100 other recruits were trained to score math tests from Washington State. This training is critical, scoring specialists say, to make sure that scorers consistently apply a state's specific standards, rather than their own.

But one evening in late July, as the Washington project was ending, Ms. Steele said, she was asked by her supervisor to stop grading math and switch to a reading test from another state, without any training.

"He just handed me a scoring rubric and said, 'Start scoring,'" Ms. Steele said. Perhaps a dozen of her co-workers were given similar instructions, she added, and were offered overtime as an inducement.

Baffled, Ms. Steele said she read through the scoring guide and scored tests for about 30 minutes. "Then I left, and didn't go back," she said. "I really was not confident in my ability to score that test."

Two other former scorers for NCS say they saw inconsistent grading.

Renée Brochu of Iowa City recalled when a supervisor explained that a certain response should be scored as a 2 on a two-point scale. "And someone would gasp and say, 'Oh, no, I've scored hundreds of those as a 1,'" Ms. Brochu said. "There was never the suggestion that we go back and change the ones already scored."

Another former scorer, Mr. Golczewski, accused supervisors of trying to manipulate results to match expectations. "One day you see an essay that is a 3, and the next day those are to be 2's because they say we need more 2's," he said.

He recalled that the pressure to produce worsened as deadlines neared. "We are actually told," he said, "to stop getting too involved or thinking too long about the score—to just score it on our first impressions."

Mr. Smith of NCS dismissed these anecdotes as aberrations that were probably caught by supervisors before they affected scores.

"Mistakes will occur," he said. "We do everything possible to eliminate those mistakes before they affect an individual test taker."

New York City did not use NCS to score its essay-style tests; instead, like a few other states, it used local teachers. But like the scorers in Iowa, they also complained that they had not been adequately trained.

One reading teacher said she was assigned to score eight-grade math tests. "I said I hadn't been in eight-grade math class since I was in eight grade," she said.

Another teacher, said she, arrived late at the scoring session and was put right to work without any training.

Roseanne DeFablo, assistant education commissioner in New York State, said she thought the complaints were exaggerated. State audits each year of 10 percent of the tests do not show any major problems, she said, "so I think it's unlikely that there's any systemic problem with the scoring."

#### THE DEMAND—STATES PUSHING FOR MORE, FASTER

Testing specialists argue that educators and politicians must share the blame for the rash of testing errors because they are asking too much of the industry.

They says schools want to test as late in the year as possible to maximize student performance, while using tests that take longer to score. Yet schools want the results before the school year ends so they can decide about school financing, teacher evaluations, summer school, promotions or graduation.

"The demands may just be impossible," said Edward D. Roeber, a former education official who is now vice president for external affairs for Measured Progress.

Case in point: California. On Oct. 9, 1997, Gov. Pete Wilson signed into law a bill that gave state education officials five weeks to choose and adopt a statewide achievement test, called the Standardized Testing and Reporting program.

The law's "unrealistic" deadlines; state auditors said later, contributed to the numerous quality control problems that plagued the test contractor, Harcourt Educational Measurement, for the next two years.

That state audit, and an audit done for Harcourt by Deloitte & Touche, paint a devastating portrait of what went wrong. There was not time to test the computer link between Harcourt, the test contractor, and NCS, the subcontractor. When needed, it did not work, causing delays. Some test materials were delivered so late that students could not take the test on schedule.

It got worse. pages in test booklets were duplicated, missing or out of order. One district's test booklets, more than two tons of paper, were dumped on the sidewalk outside the district offices at 5 p.m. on a Friday—in the rain. Test administrators were not adequately trained. When school districts got the computer disks from NCS that were supposed to contain the test results, some of the data was inaccurate and some of the disks were blank.

In 1998, nearly 700 of the state's 8,500 schools got inaccurate test results, and more than 750,000 students were not included in the statewide analysis of the test results.

Then, in 1999, Harcourt made a mistake entering demographic data into its computer. The resulting scores made it appear that students with a limited command of English were performing better in English than they actually were, a politically charged statistic in a state that had voted a year earlier to eliminate bilingual education in favor of a one-year intensive class in English.

"There's tremendous political pressure to get tests in place faster than is prudent," said Maureen G. DiMarco, a vice president at Houghton Mifflin, whose subsidiary, the Riverside Publishing Company, was one of the unsuccessful bidders for California's business.

Dr. Paslov, who became president of Harcourt Educational Measurement after the 1999 problems, said that the current testing season in California is going smoothly and that Harcourt has addressed concerns about errors and delays.

But California is still sprinting ahead.

In 1999, Gov. Gray Davis signed a bill directing state education officials to develop

another statewide test, the California High School Exit Exam. Once again, industry executive said, speed seemed to trump all other considerations.

None of the major testing companies had on the project because of what Ms. DiMarco called "impossible, unrealistic time lines."

With no bidders, the state asked the companies to draft their own proposals. "We had just 10 days to put it together," recalled George W. Bohrnstedt, senior vice president of research at the American Institutes for Research, which has done noneducational testing but is new to school testing.

Phil Spears, the state testing director, said A.I.R. faced a "monumental task, building and administering a test in 18 months."

"Most states," Mr. Spears said, "would take three-plus years to do that kind of test."

The new test was given for the first time this spring.

#### THE CONCERN—LIFE CHOICES BASED ON SCORE

States are not just demanding more speed; they are demanding more complicated exams. Test companies once had a steady business selling the same brand-name tests, like Harcourt's Stanford Achievement Test or Riverside's Iowa Test of Basic Skills, to school districts. These "shelf" tests, also called norm-referenced tests, are the testing equivalent of ready-to-wear clothing. Graded on a bell curve, they measure how a student is performing compared with other students taking the same tests.

But increasingly, states want custom tailoring, tests designed to fit their homegrown educational standards. These "criterion referenced" tests measure students against a fixed yardstick, not against each other.

That is exactly what Arizona wanted when it hired NCS and CTB/McGraw-Hill in December 1998. What it got was more than two years of errors, delays, escalating costs and angry disappointment on all sides.

Some of the problems Arizona encountered occurred because the state had established standards that, officials later conceded, were too rigorous. But the State blames other disruptions on NCS.

"You can't trust the quality assurance going on now," said Kelly Powell, the Arizona testing director, who is still wrangling with NCS.

For its part, NCS has thrown up its hands on Arizona. "We've given Arizona nearly \$2 of service for every dollar they have paid us," said Jeffrey W. Taylor, a senior vice president of NCS. Mr. Taylor said NCS would not bid on future business in that state.

Each customized test a state orders must be designed, written, edited, reviewed by state educators, field-tested, checked for validity and bias, and calibrated to previous tests—an arduous process that requires a battery of people trained in educational statistics and psychometrics, the science of measuring mental function.

While the demand for such people is exploding, they are in extremely short supply despite salaries that can reach into the six figures, people in the industry said. "All of us in the business are very concerned about capacity," Mr. Bohrnstedt of A.I.R. said.

And academia will be little help, at least for a while, because promising candidates are going into other, more lucrative areas of statistics and computer programming, testing executives say.

Kurt Landgraf, president of the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, N.J., the titan of college admission tests but a newcomer to high-stakes state testing, estimated that there are about 20 good people coming into the field every year.

Already, the strain on the test-design process is showing. A supplemental math test

that Harcourt developed for California in 1999 proved statistically unreliable, in part because it was too short. Harcourt had been urged to add five questions to the test, state auditors said, but that was never done.

Even more troubling, most test professionals say, is the willingness of states like Arizona to use standardized tests in ways that violate the testing industry's professional standards. For example, many states use test scores for determining whether students graduate. Yet the American Educational Research Association, the nation's largest educational research group, specifically warns educators against making high-stakes decisions based on a single test.

Among the reasons for this position, testing professionals say, is that some students are emotionally overcome by the pressure of taking standardized tests. And a test score, "like any other source of information about a student, is subject to error," noted the National Research Council in a comprehensive study of high-stakes testing in 1999.

But industry executives insist that, while they try to persuade schools to use tests appropriately, they are powerless to enforce industry standards when their customers are determined to do otherwise. A few executives say privately that they have refused to bid on state projects they thought professionally and legally indefensible.

"But we haven't come to the point yet, and I don't know if we will, where we are going to tell California—Where we sell \$44 million worth of business—Nope! We don't like the way you people are using these instruments, so we're not going to sell you this test," Dr. Paslov said.

Besides, as one executive said, "If I don't sell them, my competitors will."

#### THE EXPECTATIONS—BUSH PROPOSAL RAISES THE BAR

President Bush explained in a radio address on Jan. 24 why he wanted to require annual testing of students in grades 3 to 8 in reading, math and science, "without yearly testing," he said, "we do not know who is falling behind and who needs our help."

While many children will clearly need help, so will the testing industry if it is called upon to carry out Mr. Bush's plan, education specialists said.

Currently, only 13 states test for reading and math in all six grades required by the Bush plan. If Mr. Bush's plan is carried out,—the industry's workload will grow by more than 50 percent.

Ms. Jax, Minnesota's top school official, says she is not close to being ready. "It's just impossible to find enough people," she said, "I will have to add at least four tests. I don't have the capacity for that, and I'm not convinced that the industry does either."

Certainly the industry has been generating revenues that could support some expansion. In 1999, its last full year as an independent company, NCS reported revenues of more than \$620 million, up 30 percent from the previous year. The other major players, all corporate units, do not disclose revenues.

Several of the largest testing companies have assured the administration that the industry can handle the additional work. "It's taken the testing industry a while to gear up for this," said Dr. Paslov of Harcourt. "But we are ready."

Other executives are far less optimistic. "I don't know how anyone can say that we can do this now," said Mr. Landgraf of the Educational Testing Service.

Russell Hagen, chief executive of the Data Recognition Corporation, a midsize testing company in Maple Grove, Minn., worries that the added workload from the Bush proposal would create even more quality control

problems, with increasingly serious consequences for students. "Take the Minnesota experience and put it in 50 states," he said.

The Minnesota experience is still a fresh fact of life for students like Jake Plumley, who is working nights for Federal Express and hoping to find another union job like the one he gave up last summer.

But despite his difficult experience, he does not oppose the kind of testing that derailed his post-graduation plans. "The high-stakes test—it keeps kids motivated. So I understand the idea of the test," he said. "But they need to do it right."

#### LETTER TO THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES REGARDING ARSENIC

#### HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member submits this letter he sent on May 17, 2001, to Dr. Bruce Alberts, President of the National Academy of Sciences regarding a meeting of the National Research Council's arsenic review subcommittee. The letter expresses strong concerns about the agenda and participants.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 17, 2001.

Dr. BRUCE ALBERTS,  
President, National Academy of Sciences,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR DR. ALBERTS: I am writing to express concerns about the meeting scheduled to be held on May 21st by the National Research Council's arsenic review subcommittee.

As you know, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has asked the National Academy of Sciences to review new studies regarding the health effects of arsenic in drinking water and to review the EPA's risk analysis of arsenic. Unfortunately, it has come to my attention that there are significant concerns about the upcoming review. There is a growing appearance that the process may not be as balanced as it needs to be and questions have been raised about the objectivity of the review.

Several specific and troubling concerns have been recently relayed to me. First, it is my understanding that a representative of the Natural Resources Defense Council is on the agenda for the May 21st meeting, but no one representing state or local interests has been invited. Second, I have been informed that certain scientists who expressed concerns about the proposed lower levels of arsenic in drinking water were not invited back to serve on the panel while those supporting a significant decrease were included on the subcommittee. Finally, it has been brought to my attention that the panel will only be hearing from those EPA representatives who favor advocating a lower standard for arsenic in drinking water.

Because of the seriousness of this issue, I believe it requires immediate attention and I would appreciate a prompt response addressing these concerns. I strongly support a scientific approach to addressing this issue which is of great interest to many Nebraskans. However, I believe it must be done in an objective manner which takes into account a wide variety of scientific viewpoints.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Additionally, I want you to know I will

place this letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Best wishes,

DOUG BEREUTER,  
Member of Congress.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE SOLID WASTE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2001

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, in 1999, more than 2 million cubic yards of foreign municipal waste was imported to the State of Michigan, with the citizens of the state having no say in the process. The citizens of Michigan have made it clear: they want the power to regulate incoming foreign waste. Through their elected officials, Michigan citizens have attempted to gain some control of the importation of municipal waste to Michigan. Each time though, these legislative actions have been deemed unconstitutional in court, as states have not been granted the necessary authority by Congress. The Solid Waste International Transportation Act of 2001 is designed to give every state the authority to prohibit or limit the influx of foreign municipal waste through state legislative action.

A Supreme Court decision in 1978, *City of Philadelphia v. New Jersey*, struck down a New Jersey statute which prohibited the importation of most out of state municipal waste, partially on the basis that the Federal Solid Waste Disposal Act, had no "clear and manifest purpose of Congress to preempt the entire field of interstate waste, either by express statutory command, or by implicit legislative design." The Solid Waste International Transportation Act of 2001 would amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide that express statutory command.

*Northeast Bancorp v. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System* 472 U.S. 159, 174 (1985) said "When Congress so chooses, state actions which it plainly authorizes are invulnerable to constitutional attack under the Commerce Clause." The Solid Waste International Transportation Act of 2001 would be a plain authorization of the state's authority to prohibit or limit incoming foreign municipal waste.

Every state in this nation should have the ability to regulate the influx of foreign municipal waste. If a state wants to prohibit the importation of foreign waste, they ought to have that power. If a state wants to import large amounts of foreign waste, they ought to have that power. Or if a state wants to restrict the importation of foreign municipal waste, they ought to have that power too. Through their elected representatives, let's give the citizens of their respective states a say in the importation of foreign municipal waste.

#### WOMEN'S BREAST CANCER RECOVERY ACT, H.R. 1485

#### HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of a bill I recently introduced, H.R. 1485, the Women's Breast Cancer Recovery Act of 2001, along with my colleague, Representative Sue Myrick. This important piece of legislation would provide a significant measure of relief for women across our nation who are confronted by breast cancer. We introduce this bill on behalf of women who are now fighting the battle against breast cancer, and for any friends and relatives who may have lost a loved one to this terrible disease.

Specifically, our legislation would require insurance plans that currently provide breast cancer medical and surgical benefits to guarantee medically appropriate and adequate inpatient care following a mastectomy, lumpectomy or lymph node dissection. In particular, our bill will stop the practice of "drive-through" mastectomies. This legislation will also protect doctors from any penalties or reductions in reimbursement from insurance plans when they follow their judgment on what is medically appropriate and necessary for the patient.

Most importantly, group health insurers will not be able to provide "bonuses" or any other financial incentives to a physician in order to keep inpatient stays below certain limits, or limit referrals to second opinions.

Our legislation also requires health care providers to pay for secondary consultations when test results come back either negative or positive. This provision will give all patients the benefit of a second opinion in relation to diagnosing all types of cancer, not just breast cancer.

I am proud to say that the Women's Cancer Recovery Act will empower women to determine the best course of care. Recovery time from a mastectomy will not be decided by an insurance company actuary. Rather, it will be decided by someone with medical expertise, which, in most cases, is the familiar face of the woman's doctor.

I hope that this legislation will at least ease some of the fear associated with mastectomies. Breast cancer is devastating enough for a woman and her family to cope with, without the added burden of overcoming obstacles to treatment.

I urge my colleagues to support and adopt H.R. 1485.

#### HONORING GENEVA TAYLOR ON HER RETIREMENT

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize an individual who throughout the course of her career has served the citizens of Colorado with great distinction, Mrs. Geneva Taylor. After almost 40 years of service in the banking industry and eight as the senior vice president of loans for



Community 1st National Bank, Geneva is set to begin a much-deserved retirement at the end of this month as family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate her accomplished tenure with the banking industry and the community. I too would like to pay tribute to Geneva and thank her for her service. Clearly, her hard work is deserving of thanks and praise of Congress.

Born in Scott City, Kansas, Geneva moved to Colorado with her family at the age of 3. Eventually her family moved to Yampa, Colorado where she graduated from high school. In 1961 she graduated from Parks Business School in Denver, where she received her secretary's business certificate in nine months.

Along with her daily schedule, Geneva was heavily involved in the community. Throughout the years, Geneva has worked with numerous community organizations. Geneva served on the Board of Directors of the Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts Camp and the Rotary Club. She was also instrumental in keeping the Toast Mistress Club for Women running.

In 1998, Geneva was given the HAZIE Werner Award for Excellence for all of her outstanding Community Service. This year the United States Department of Agriculture presented her three awards for her service to senior citizens communities, the USDA Rural Development Special Recognition award, the USDA Rural Development Site Manager of the Year award and the USDA Rural Development award in acknowledgement of her achievement in maintaining 0% average vacancy for the Mountain View Estates. Geneva was instrumental in obtaining monetary funds for special needs at the Selbe and Mountain View Manor complexes.

After 39 years in the banking industry, Geneva has decided to retire so she can spend more time with her daughter Vicki and her grandchildren Brianna and Dakin. "Geneva is always helping people, and now she will have the time to do more of that," said her husband, state Senator Jack Taylor.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Geneva for her service to our community. I know that her husband Jack, her daughter Vicki, and her grandchildren couldn't possibly be prouder of her. That, Mr. Speaker, is a sentiment shared by Geneva's friends, colleagues and associates, as well as the United States Congress.

Geneva, congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for continued success and happiness during your well deserved retirement!

**TRIBUTE TO HORACE HEIDT, SR.  
ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS  
100TH BIRTHDAY**

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Mr. Horace Heidt, Sr. of Los Angeles on the 100th anniversary of his birth. On May 19th, 2001 a plaque on the Walk of Stars in Palm Springs, California was dedicated to the memory of Horace Heidt, Sr. In addition, his memory and great array of accomplishments are to be saluted at a special reception on May 26th in Los Angeles.

Early in his music career, Horace started the famous Musical Knights, who were once one of the most popular Show Bands in the United States. This group was known for performances at landmark hotel venues in Chicago and New York. The Musical Knights also aired on radio in the 1930s and 1940s on such shows as Horace Heidt and the Alemites, Treasure Chest, and The Pot o' Gold. The Pot o' Gold was America's first "give-away money" game show and later turned into a movie starring Jimmy Stewart.

In the 1950's, Horace created The Original Youth Opportunity Program, which was a celebrated talent show that aired both on radio and television. Through this program, Horace discovered many great talents which earned him the nickname "The Starmaker".

The Musical Knights created many great hits and fostered several famous projects such as *Gone With the Wind* (1937), *Ti-Pi-Tin* (1938) and *I Don't Want to Set the World on Fire* (1941).

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to an unforgettable musician, father, and true American, Horace Heidt, Sr.

**TRIBUTE TO CESAR CHAVEZ  
LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNER:  
VOLUME SERVICES**

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Volume Services as they are honored as the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO Spirit of Cooperation Award winner.

Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with workers, Volume Services, formally Service America, is a strong and courageous supporter of the labor movement. Under the leadership of Convention Center General Manager John Vingus, Volume Services has given numerous contributions to labor, including food for the SEIU 2028 janitors during their four-week strike last year. Vingus is a management trustee on health and welfare, pension, and labor union trust funds to help secure better benefits for union members and their families. He also sits on the Training Trust Fund as a management trustee.

In addition, Vingus is a strong advocate for the Hotel Employee and Restaurant Employees hospitality training program. Volume Services contributes on an hourly basis to the fund and places people in a variety of union jobs.

"Volume Services is an advocate for employee rights," says Jef Eatchel, Business Manager for HERE Local 30. "When they went to the Convention Center Board to bid on a service contract, they told the board that they were proud to be a union employer with medical benefits, stabilized wages, and retirement and urged the board to contract only with employers that meet those standards. Volume Services is definitely on our side."

My congratulations goes to Volume Services for their significant contributions to the labor movement. They are truly deserving of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO Spirit of Cooperation Award.

**IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
THOMAS M. DUFFY ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
ACADEMY**

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Thomas M. Duffy of Grafton, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, Thomas' offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2005. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Thomas brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While attending Elyria Catholic High School in Elyria, Thomas attained a grade point average of 3.86, which places him eighteenth in a class of one hundred thirty-three. Thomas is a member of the National Honors Society, a high honor for any high school student.

Outside the classroom, Thomas has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Thomas has earned a position on the varsity football, wrestling, and track teams. Thomas has also been active in the student Senate serving as Vice President, the choir, the drama club, and the environment club. He is active in his church choir and as a volunteer for the Holy Name Society.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to pay special tribute to Thomas M. Duffy. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Thomas will do very well during his career at the Air Force Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the Nation.

**A TRIBUTE TO TONY AMAYA**

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like a moment to recognize and thank a Delta, Colorado resident who has made sure that students who are having difficulty in school get the help and support they need. Mr. Tony Amaya serves as the risk coordinator for the Delta County Joint School Task Force and the liaison coordinator for the 21st Century Learning Program.

Tony lived in Tijuana, Mexico until he was eight years old. His family then migrated to the United States. Tony spent much of his free time learning English. He got involved in

sports where he eventually competed in wrestling. His dream was to qualify for the Olympics. In 1990 a Mexican international coach recruited him. He then traveled all over the world and took third in the Pan American Wrestling Championships.

After serving as a law enforcement officer for both the Montrose Sheriffs Department and the Montrose Police Department, Tony became the at-risk coordinator for the Delta County Joint School District. His job involves speaking to students who are not having a good school experience. He also works with parents and administrators to help students with their academic needs and to find and resolve the problems to keep students in school. "Life is what you make of it. If you work hard, stay away from drugs and bad companions you can follow your dream," said Tony in a Delta Tribune article.

In March, 2001, Tony was the Hispanic motivational speaker at Lincoln Elementary and Delta Middle School. He spoke to students about the dangers of drinking, smoking, using drugs and disrupting their education. "Be proud of who you are and don't forget your Spanish . . . You are our future—our doctors, lawyers, teachers, etc."

Mr. Speaker, his hard work and dedication has made Tony Amaya a role model for all the young people of his community, and especially for the Hispanic youth of the community. I would like to thank Tony for all that he has done and wish him the best of luck in the future.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE S.W. JOHNSON SFE CO. NO. 1

#### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the founding of Samuel W. Johnson Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1, Inc. in Garnerville, New York.

On June 6, 1876 a meeting was held in Garnerville for the purpose of forming the town's first fire department. Twenty eight members were sworn in as charter members and the first resolution to be unanimously adopted was that the company be known as the "Samuel W. Johnson Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 1."

In those early years, the centerpiece of the Company's firefighting equipment was the American LaFrance Button Steam Fire Engine, originally purchased in 1869 by the Garner Print Works. The Steamer was pulled by a team of horses stabled at the Garner Print Works and it is alleged that those horses would respond to the Steamer Stall when fire alarms were sounded.

Over the years, the brave, dedicated men of the S.W. Johnson SFE Co. No. 1 have selflessly answered the call when disaster struck the town and its citizens. Most notable were their heroic efforts in responding to the major landslide which devastated part of the town in January 1906 and the high-profile rescue of three Garnerville citizens during separate incidents in 1983 and 1985, both resulting in commendation of the firefighters involved.

As the Fire Company membership declined in the 1990s, a committee was formed to investigate the possibility of initiating a "Junior Fire Fighter" program. These members, between the ages of 16 and 18, have contributed to the success of this innovative program and are instrumental as exterior firefighters to the S.W. Johnson SFE Co. No. 1.

The S.W. Johnson Fire Company enters the 21st century with its newest firefighting equipment, a 2000 gpm pumper. It is a far cry from the original Steamer that pumped approximately 150 gpm. On September 8, 2001, at 1:00 pm, time will be turned back as once again three Belgian Draft Horses will pull the 1869 Button Steamer through the streets of Garnerville, during the 125th Anniversary Parade of S.W. Johnson. This will be a special treat for the residents and will be a tribute to this outstanding example of volunteerism in America.

Accordingly, I am pleased to salute the anniversary of the founding of the Samuel W. Johnson Steam Fire Engine Co. No. 1, Inc. of Garnerville, New York.

#### JERRY SUPPA: FRIEND OF THE LABOR COUNCIL

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jerry Suppa, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO with the Friend of the Labor Council award.

Attorney Jerry Suppa has donated thousands of hours and provided critical leadership in creating the United Labor Foundation and purchasing the United Labor Center.

"For nearly twenty years, Jerry Suppa has given his time and energy to help working people, without adequate compensation," says Jerry Butkiewicz, who first met Suppa when he gave free workshops for the laid-off Cannery and General Dynamics workers when plants closed. "Although he is not a labor lawyer, Jerry Suppa has a heart for working people."

Today he continues to be the legal counsel for the United Labor Foundation, much of it pro bono.

My congratulations go to Jerry Suppa for his significant contributions. I can attest to Jerry's dedication and believe him to be highly deserving of his recognition as the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, Friend of the Labor Council award winner.

#### IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF RYAN G. HEFRON ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

#### HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I

am happy to announce that Ryan G. Hefron of Amherst, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, Ryan's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2005. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Ryan brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While attending Lorain Catholic High School in Lorain, Ryan attained a grade point average of 4.22, which places him second in a class of sixty-five. Ryan is a member of the Buckeye Boys State, First Honors Academic Honor Roll, and has received a letter in academics. The Cleveland Technical Society, the ASMI Cleveland Chapter has also honored him for his academic prowess. Ryan was also recognized as a Wendy's High School Heisman Nominee.

Outside the classroom, Ryan has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Ryan has earned varsity letters in football, basketball and track. Ryan has been active in the Northern Ohio Orchestra, drama club, and the Ambassadors Club.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to pay special tribute to Ryan G. Hefron. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Ryan will do very well during his career at the Air Force Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

#### HONORING ROVILLA R. ELLIS ON HER RETIREMENT

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, on May 5, 2001 Rovilla R. Ellis, the Executive Director of the Mesa Verde Museum Association, retired after 28 years. I would like to take this moment to have Congress say thank you for all of her hard work and dedication to the museum over the years. She has been a great asset and will be missed greatly by all she worked with.

The Mesa Verde Museum Association is a non-profit organization established by Congress in 1930 to assist and support various interpretive programs, research activities and visitor centers.

Rovilla began her career in 1972 as a part time bookkeeper with the association. Over the years she moved up through the ranks to become Executive Director. Rovilla saw the gross revenues grow from \$54,000 in 1972 to well over \$900,000 in recent years. She has worked with five park superintendents during her time at Mesa Verde.

"Rovilla has made a positive, long-lasting and important contribution to Mesa Verde National Park during her career," said Superintendent Larry T. Wiese. "Her many years of service reflect a deep love for Mesa Verde



and a strong commitment to the mission of the National Park Service. We are sad to see her leaving the park, but we know that she will enjoy her retirement."

Mr. Speaker, I hope Congress will join me in expressing my thanks to Rovilla Ellis for her years of service to the Mesa Verde National Park and to wish her good luck in her retirement.

HONORING CENTRAL PRIMARY  
SCHOOL, BLOOMFIELD, NEW  
MEXICO

### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acclaim the accomplishments of one of New Mexico's top primary schools that shows the nation what it takes to be a leader in the educational field. I want to congratulate the Central Primary School in Bloomfield, New Mexico, for receiving the U.S. Department of Education's highest award, the 2000-2001 Blue Ribbon Schools Award for outstanding achievement in elementary education.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Award is presented to schools that excel in numerous fields, from strong leadership, clear visions for the future, and a strong sense of mission to the high quality of teaching and up-to-date curricula, and a commitment to share their knowledge with other area schools. This year, the Blue Ribbon Schools Award was only given to 264 elementary or primary schools nationwide. Mesa Elementary School in Clovis, New Mexico, was also presented with the Blue Ribbon Schools Award this year.

The Bloomfield school district is in the "Four Corners" area of the state, which is the only place in the U.S. where four states—New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Arizona—meet. This area has an extremely diverse population, with the school-age children reflecting this diversity in the classroom. There, one-third of the students are Anglo, one-third of the students are Hispanic, and one-third of the students are Navajo.

The ability of Central Primary to continually strive for excellence in the classroom and the community is transferred to its students, who learn the important skills they will need to live successful lives.

Mr. Speaker, today I wish to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of the Central Primary School for its impressive achievements in the field of education. I thank the school for its commitment to the children of New Mexico.

BILL TWEET: LABOR TO NEIGHBOR  
AWARD WINNER

### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bill Tweet, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO with the Labor to Neighbor award.

Actively committed to escalating labor's involvement in the community, Bill Tweet, Busi-

ness Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer of Ironworkers Local 229, has consistently mobilized numerous volunteers for Labor to Neighbor campaigns. Through their annual Labor to Neighbor golf tournament, Bill and the Ironworkers have raised funds to educate union members about worker issues and political candidates sensitive to the needs of working families. Bill is also the President of the San Diego Building Trades Council.

"Bill has been a strong supporter of a united labor movement," says Mary Grillo, Executive Director of the Service Employees International Union, Local 2028. "He works hard to bring local unions together to build labor's political power."

My congratulations go to Bill Tweet for these significant contributions. I can personally attest to Bill's commitment, and believe him to be highly deserving of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, Labor to Neighbor award.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF WESLEY R. BAER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

### HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Wesley R. Baer of Middle Point, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Mr. Speaker, Wesley's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2005. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Wesley brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Lincolnview High School in Van Wert, Wesley attained a grade point average of 3.9 which places him fourteenth in a class of sixty-one. Wesley is a member of the Gold Honor Roll, National Honors Society, and the Leaders of the Future 4-H Club.

Outside the classroom, Wesley has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Wesley has earned letters in Varsity cross-country and basketball. Wesley has also been active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Lincolnview Spanish Club and the Lincolnview Science Club.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to pay tribute to Wesley R. Baer. Our service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Wesley will do very well during his career at West Point and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

HONORING A FALLEN HERO, FIRE-  
FIGHTER ANTHONY (TONY)  
ALLAN CZAK

### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, in July of 1976 a 900 acre wild fire ripped through the Battlement Creek area of Western Colorado. During the blaze, four brave forest service firefighters from different parts of the country were killed while trying to knock out one of the deadliest forest fires in recent memory. On July 21st of 2001, these four men will be honored at the opening of a memorial to be dedicated in their memory. I ask that Congress take a moment to honor these four men for giving their lives in the line of duty.

The four-day blaze which claimed the lives of three hotshot firefighters and one pilot was started by lightning, and took nearly 300 fire fighters to douse the blaze. Twenty-five year old Anthony (Tony) Allan Czak was in his fourth year working on the Mormon Lake hot-shot crew from Coconino National Forest in Arizona and was serving as the crew boss for the 76 season when he was killed by a "fast moving finger of fire".

Tony was born in Buffalo, New York and later moved to Phoenix, Arizona with his wife Janice to attend the University of Arizona. On the Morning of July 17, 1976, the crew was assigned to build a section of fire line to protect Federal lands belonging to the BLM. After they were finished, Tony sent the line crew out of the fire and into a safety zone. He then went back into the burn area to help the remaining three members with the burnout operations. Without warning, the fire took off and overran Tony and two other crewmembers. The fourth member of the crew survived.

Mr. Speaker, four men gave their lives protecting Federal land during the Battlement Creek fire in July of 1976. Anthony Czak and his crew will be honored by the citizens of the Battlement Creek area for their courage and bravery. I would ask that Congress honor them and thank them for their work.

Anthony's family should be proud of what he accomplished in his life and what he did for the people of Battlement Creek.

HONORING MESA ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL, CLOVIS, NEW MEXICO

### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the New Mexico elementary school that continues to make leaps and bounds in the superior educational standards that we strive for in the national public schools system. Mesa Elementary School in Clovis, New Mexico, has an outstanding history of educational advancement, and today I wish to congratulate Mesa Elementary for receiving the U.S. Department of Education's 2000-2001 Blue Ribbon Schools Award for outstanding achievement in elementary education.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Award is presented to schools that excel in numerous

fields, from strong leadership, clear visions for the future, and a strong sense of mission to the high quality of teaching, up-to-date curricula, and a commitment to share their knowledge with other area schools. This year, the Blue Ribbon Schools Award was only given to 264 elementary schools nationwide. The Central Primary School in Bloomfield, New Mexico, was also presented with the Blue Ribbon Schools Award this year.

Mesa Elementary School promotes the philosophy that children are intelligent in numerous ways and incorporate this belief into the daily functions of the school. Principal Jan Cox has done an incredible job of translating this notion of applied learning into the mission of the school by bringing together the staff, students, parents, and the community of Clovis to provide an environment conducive to excellence.

Student participation is one of the areas in which Mesa Elementary has shown to be one of the best in the country, and it has become a defining characteristic of the school. When it opened in 1991, Mesa Elementary students were involved from the start, selecting the school colors, mascot, and composing both the school song and pledge.

Today, one student from each grade serves on the Student Advisory Council, which aids Principal Cox in various aspects of administrative processes at Mesa Elementary. Students help select the daily cafeteria menu by serving on the Nutrition Advisory Council. Kindergarten through sixth grade students run businesses in the Mesa Elementary Mall, supplying students with products, from school supplies to refreshments. The Mesa Tech Lab, a computer resource center for the school, utilizes students who are proficient with computers as lab "techies" to help other students learn the programs.

One of the most influential learning tools that Mesa Elementary provides for its students is the Students Who Are Tutors (SWAT) team, a group of student mentors. The SWAT team was created under the Reading Renaissance Program (RRP), a nationwide literacy program aimed at improving students' critical thinking skills and their performance on standardized tests. In this program, students from higher grades assist students from lower grades who are not yet independent readers. Mesa Elementary was a model school for the RRP, and this past year the school made a presentation at the first ever RRP Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

Mesa Elementary has won numerous awards for excellence over the past six years, including the Redbook Magazine Award for Excellence in 1995, the Reading Renaissance Model School and Library Awards in 1998, and the President's Physical Fitness Award in 1996, 1997 and 2000.

Through their determination to achieve quality educational standards and provide influential learning environments, the staff, students, and parents of Mesa Elementary School have exemplified what it takes to be true leaders in education for elementary schools across the country. I wish to commend Mesa Elementary School upon receiving the prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools Award, and I know that it will be one of the leaders in providing quality education for New Mexican students for years to come.

AL SHUR: LABOR LEADER OF THE YEAR

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Al Shur, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO as Labor Leader of the Year.

As the Business Manager of IBEW Local 569, Al Shur has proven his longstanding commitment to worker justice. Also a member of the Executive Boards of the Labor Council and the State Federation of Labor, Al has been instrumental in championing the causes of labor.

Under his leadership, IBEW partnered with the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) to train high skilled workers through their apprenticeship program. Al's well-known advertising program, developed along with NECA, has raised the visibility and importance of unions in creating good family-supporting jobs.

In addition, Al's guidance assisted in securing the Project Labor Agreement for the downtown ballpark. "Al knows the true meaning of unity," says Secretary-Treasurer Jerry Butkiewicz. "He continuously works to support other locals and to promote the labor movement."

My congratulations go to Al Shur for these significant contributions. His dedication and commitment speak volumes about who Al is. I believe him to be highly deserving of the recognition as the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO, Labor Leader of the Year.

WELCOME PRESIDENT CHEN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan marked its president's first anniversary in office on May 20, 2001. President Chen Shui-bian, a Taiwan-born statesman, should be commended for his leadership and vision for his country.

President Chen has protected the tradition of political liberty for the 23 million citizens of Taiwan. His strong support for an educated population strives to ensure a society based on freedom and opportunity. I applaud his openness to democracy and the free exchange of ideas with other nations and cultures.

With the continued encouragement and assistance from the West, Taiwan can continue to be a beacon of hope for freedom in Asia.

On the occasion of President Chen's first anniversary in office, I wish President Chen Godspeed and good fortune as he transits through New York en route to Central America later this month.

HONORING A FALLEN HERO,  
FIREFIGHTER STEPHEN FURY, JR.

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, in July of 1976 a 900 acre wild fire ripped through the Battlement Creek area of Western Colorado. During the blaze, four brave forest service firefighters from different parts of the country were killed while trying to knock out one of the deadliest forest fires in recent memory. On July 21st of 2001, these four men will be honored at the opening of a memorial to be dedicated in their memory. I ask that Congress take a moment to honor these four men for giving their lives in the line of duty.

The four-day blaze which claimed the lives of three hotshot firefighters and one pilot was started by lightning, and took nearly 300 firefighters to douse the blaze. Twenty-three year old Stephen Fury, Jr. was born in Boise, Idaho where he graduated from Boise High School in 1971. He then went on to receive his English degree from the University of Idaho. During the summer of 1976, Stephen got an assignment with the Mormon Lake Hotshots out of the Coconino National Forest in Arizona.

On the morning of July 17, 1976, the crew was assigned to build a section of fire line to protect Federal lands belonging to the BLM. The hotshots were working on a section of fire line on the upper east side of the fire. With out warning, the fire took off and overran Stephen and two other crewmembers. The fourth member of the crew survived.

Mr. Speaker, four men gave their lives protecting Federal land during the Battlement Creek fire in July of 1976. Stephen Fury and his crew will be honored by the citizens of the Battlement Creek area for their courage and bravery. I would ask that Congress honor them and thank them for their work.

Stephen's family should be proud of what he accomplished in his life and what he did for the people of Battlement Creek.

A SALUTE TO MAIMONIDES HEBREW DAY SCHOOL ON ITS 21ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 21st Anniversary of the Maimonides Hebrew Day School in my congressional district in Albany, New York.

For more than two decades, Maimonides has provided the Jewish community in the Capital Region with traditional Jewish and secular education of the highest caliber.

All students participate in field experiences and extra curricular activities, building bridges between children and adults throughout the community.

I proudly extend my highest regard to School President Yisroel Bindell, the School's Rosh Yeshiva, the esteemed Rabbi Israel Rubin, and all of the administrators, staff, teachers and students, and offer them my best wishes for continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE  
CRITICAL NEED GME PROTEC-  
TION ACT

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with several of my Congressional colleagues to introduce "The Medicare Critical Need GME Protection Act of 2001." This legislation seeks to protect our nation against the growing depletion of health care professionals fully trained to treat costly and deadly illnesses.

Under current law, the Medicare program provides reimbursement to hospitals for the direct costs of graduate medical education training. That reimbursement is designed to cover the direct training costs of residents in their initial residency training period. If a resident decides to proceed with further training in a specialty or subspecialty, however, a hospital's reimbursement is cut to half, 50 percent, for that additional training.

The rationale for this policy is strong. In general, we have an oversupply of specialty physicians in our country and a real need to increase the number of primary care providers. By reducing the reimbursement for specialty training, the Medicare program has promoted needed increases in primary care training rather than specialty positions.

I agree with this policy. However, as is often the case, there are always exceptions to the rule. We do not want to hinder training of particular specialties or subspecialties if there is strong evidence that there is a serious shortage of those particular physicians. That is why I am introducing The Medicare Critical Need GME Protection Act.

Child and adolescent psychiatry is a clear example of how certain subspecialties face critical professional shortages. The 2001 report of the Surgeon General's Conference on Children's Mental Health states that almost one in ten children suffer from mental illnesses severe enough to impair development, yet fewer than one in five get treatment. One huge barrier is the clear dearth of child and adolescent psychiatrists.

Today there are roughly 7000 fully trained child and adolescent psychiatrists in the entire United States with only 300 additional psychiatrists completing specialty training each year. These numbers fall far short of what is needed to meet prevalence rates that identify nearly 15 million children and adolescents in need of mental health treatment. That means that many vulnerable young people will suffer needlessly, unable to access the help they desperately need.

To provide another example of a current subspecialty facing serious professional shortages, we can look at nephrology. Between 1986-1995, the number of patients with End Stage Renal disease, ESRD, more than doubled, with over a quarter of a million people now on dialysis. Yet current data indicate that only 51.8 percent of today's nephrologists will still be in practice in the year 2010.

Most primary care physicians are not trained to treat the complex multi-symptom medical problems typically seen in ESRD and are unfamiliar with specific medications and technology prescribed for such patients. The decreasing supply of nephrologists, coupled with

an expanding population of renal patients, puts the health of our nation at risk.

The Medicare Critical Need GME Protection Act provides a tool to help combat such shortages of qualified professionals. The bill would simply provide the Secretary of Health and Human Services with the flexibility to continue full funding for a specialty or subspecialty training program if there is evidence that the program has a current shortage, or faces an imminent shortage, or health care professionals to meet the needs of our health care system.

The Secretary would grant this exception only for a limited number of years and would have complete control of the exception process. Programs would present evidence of the shortage and the Secretary could agree or disagree with the analysis. Nothing in this bill would require the Secretary to take any action whatsoever.

The bill also includes protections for budget neutrality. If the Secretary approves a specialty or subspecialty training program for full funding under this bill, the Secretary must adjust direct GME payments to ensure that no additional funds are spent.

Again, The Medical Critical Need GME Protection Act does nothing more than provide limited flexibility to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to ensure that we are training the health care professionals that meet our nation's needs.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in support of this important legislation. By giving the Secretary the flexibility to allocate funds to attract and train professionals in certain 'at risk' fields of medicine, we will significantly improve patient care and lower long-term health care costs.

AWARD FOR SOUTH TEXAS  
SCHOOLS

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to three schools in South Texas which are beating the odds in today's public education system by harnessing the strength and awareness of the student population.

At a time when our resources are terribly over-burdened, the following South Texas schools are being recognized by the "Set A Good Example" competition sponsored by the Concerned Businessmen of America: Landrum Elementary in San Benito (2nd place nationally), Harlingen High School (2nd place nationally), and Rio Hondo Elementary (top ten honors).

These awards, launched in 1982, recognize schools which have student-oriented programs to influence their peers in a positive way by emphasizing the simple human moral values such as honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility, competence and fairness.

The Concerned Businessmen of America is a not-for-profit charitable educational organization which offers successful business strategies and programs to combat social ills and problems that face young people.

At a time when parents and community leaders are watching our young people with new eyes, wondering what is going on inside

their minds and what motivates them, this recognition is concrete proof that the South Texas community is paying attention to our young people.

Educators, counselors, parents, business people, and most importantly, students themselves, are working together to ward off the problems that have plagued other schools and other young people. The winning ingredient here is the active involvement of the students; the best messenger for young people is other young people.

We have enormous challenges before us in education and with regard to the public policy in our public schools. There will never be one single answer to preparing young people to withstand the complex social issues that our children encounter each day. But the best way to prepare our children to deal with the society in which we live is to teach them, from very early on, simple moral guidelines to apply to their lives. The "Set a Good Example" program follows up as encouragement and reinforcement to these lessons.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Landrum Elementary in San Benito, Harlingen High School, and Rio Hondo Elementary for their efforts to be part of a solution, which is the first step to solving the problem. I thank the young people in these schools for leading the way to better grades and healthier attitudes.

HONORING A FALLEN HERO,  
FIREFIGHTER SCOTT L. NELSON

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, in July of 1976 a 900 acre wild fire ripped through the Battlement Creek area of Western Colorado. During the blaze, four brave forest service firefighters from different parts of the country were killed while trying to knock out one of the deadliest forest fires in recent memory. On July 21st of 2001, these four men will be honored at the opening of a memorial to be dedicated in their memory. I ask that Congress take a moment to honor these four men for giving their lives in the line of duty.

The four-day blaze which claimed the lives of three hotshot firefighters and one pilot was started by lightning, and took nearly 300 fire fighters to douse the blaze. Twenty-five year old Scott L. Nelson was born in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. Scott was a rookie firefighter on the Mormon Hotshots. He completed his basic training during May of 1976. During the summer of 1976, Scott got an assignment with the Mormon Lake Hotshots out of the Coconino National Forest in Arizona.

On the Morning of July 17, 1976, the crew was assigned to build a section of fire line to protect Federal lands belonging to the BLM. The hotshots were working on a section of fire line on the upper east side of the fire. With out warning, the fire took off and overran Scott and two other crewmembers. The fourth member of the crew survived.

Mr. Speaker, four men gave their lives protecting Federal land during the Battlement Creek fire in July of 1976. Scott L. Nelson and his crew will be honored by the citizens of the Battlement Creek area for their courage and

bravery. I would ask that Congress honor them and thank them for their work.

Scott's family should be proud of what he accomplished in his life and what he did for the people of Battlement Creek.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S DEMOCRACY ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN'S INAUGURATION

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the one year anniversary of President Chen Shui-bian's inauguration as President of Taiwan. As the first member of the opposition to assume that office, his election was an extremely important milestone in the development of Taiwan's democracy. It's easy to forget that less than 15 years ago Taiwan was still under martial law. The changes we've seen in that short time span are nothing less than remarkable. Taiwan has become a true multiparty democracy that respects human rights and the rule of law. It is a shining example in a region where many countries remain under the control of one man or one party.

Taiwan and the United States share a common commitment to the ideals of democracy and freedom. The 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, which forms the official basis for friendship and cooperation between the United States and Taiwan, continues to provide a strong foundation for the bond between the people of both countries. That bond is sustained and made stronger each day by the large Taiwanese-American community, which has made innumerable contributions to our nation's social, economic and political life.

As we celebrate the strength of Taiwan's democracy, we must also recognize the many challenges still faced by that country. Despite its many positive contributions to the international community, much work remains to be done to ensure Taiwan's appropriate participation in a variety of international organizations, including the World Health Organization, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization. In addition, we must do everything possible to ensure that Taiwan's legitimate defense requirements are adequately addressed.

On his first anniversary in office, I wish President Chen Shui-bian every success in meeting these and other challenges. I also want to extend my warmest welcome to President Chen as he visits New York City on his way to Central America.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN ANDERSON CREWS

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special person, Mr. John Anderson Crews, who serves as a source of inspiration to his family and many friends.

John Anderson Crews of Newark, New Jersey, celebrated his 98th year of life on February 3, 2001. He was honored at a gala hosted by his two daughters, Maria Crews-Minatee and Betty Crews-McNeil. Some 175 family members, guests and friends shared this event at his home congregation, Mount Zion Baptist Church in Newark, New Jersey.

Born in Vance County, Henderson, North Carolina, he came to Newark at the age of twenty (20). He married the late Maude E. Epps in 1925 and they raised three children. During World War II Mr. Crews was employed at Wright Aeronautical in Paterson, NJ, as an airplane engine assembler. He retired from the Pennsylvania Railroad after twenty-one years as an assigned laborer.

John Crews has always led a busy life over his ninety-eight years. He is well known as an avid fisherman who taught many people the art of good fishing. For many years he served as the official fileter during the annual Fishing Derby at Martha's Vineyard, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. In addition, John Crews has been the mechanic who generously repaired cars for family and friends.

He stays abreast of current events through his daily routine of reading all sections of the local newspaper. Family and visitors are frequently challenged by his thorough knowledge of family history and what's happening today.

Mr. Crews, the living legend has been a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church since 1923, so it was only fitting that his birthday celebration be held at his church home. He served as church sexton, superintendent of the Baptist Young People's Union and an ordained deacon.

The immediate family of John A. Crews extends through five generations with two children, three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO JEAN RUNYON

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Jean Runyon, a woman with a remarkable career in public service. To say that Jean has a flair for politics would only begin to skim the surface of the many wonderful contributions that she has made to numerous causes over the years.

Jean first got involved in politics during the 1948 gubernatorial campaign of Adlai Stevenson and has been a devoted social and political activist ever since. The best way to describe Jean's political interests and involvement is exhaustive. Jean's presence is a staple in the Democratic Party. She carries with her enough charisma to charm a crowd as well as the political savvy and dedication needed to fight the good fight.

She has done everything from chairing the 1980 Kennedy Caucus to hosting political leaders at her home. In fact, the only thing that stretches farther than Jean's dedication is her knowledge of the political scene. By just glancing at her impressive list of political involvement, it is easy to see that Jean is a true champion of public service. Jean has been selected as a Delegate to the Democratic National Convention five times in the past 30

years, served as co-chair of the California Affirmative Action Committee in 1976 as well as co-chair of the California Democratic Party Budget and Finance Committee in 1976.

Over the years, Jean has been recognized by a host of organizations for her Herculean efforts. She was named Democratic Woman of the Year in 1975 and Key Woman of the Democratic Woman's Forum in 1960. This year, she is being recognized once more by the esteemed publication Asia Week for her many years of outstanding public service. As a founding member of the First Asian Pacific Caucus in 1976, Jean helped to pave the way for equal and just treatment of Asian Pacific Americans. Time and time again, she has succeeded in ensuring that the interests of the Asian Pacific Community are heard and protected. Jean has truly been a shining light that has inspired scores of youth to get involved in politics. I cannot think of anyone else more deserving of this honor than she.

Jean's public involvement is not exclusive to strictly politics. She is an active member of numerous organizations including the PTA, ACLU, Women for Peace and the League of Women Voters to name a few. Furthermore, programs such as Meals on Wheels and the Women and Children Crisis Shelter would not have achieved the success that they have enjoyed without Jean's instrumental support.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Jean Runyon. Her continuous leadership is a true testament to public service. If a template of leadership could be made, it would certainly bear the resemblance of my friend Jean Runyon. Her career thus far as a social and political activist is commendable. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting this truly remarkable political activist.

HONORING A FALLEN HERO, SLURRY BOMBER PILOT DONALD A. GOODMAN

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, in July of 1976 a 900 acre wild fire ripped through the Battlement Creek area of Western Colorado. During the blaze, four brave forest service firefighters from different parts of the country were killed while trying to knock out one of the deadliest forest fires in recent memory. On July 21st of 2001, these four men will be honored at the opening of a memorial to be dedicated in their memory. I ask that Congress take a moment to honor these four men for giving their lives in the line of duty.

The four-day blaze which claimed the lives of three hotshot firefighters and one pilot was started by lightning, and took nearly 300 fire fighters to squelch the blaze. Fifty-nine year old Donald A. Goodman was born in Okanagan, Washington and raised in McCall, Idaho. While he was in high school, he learned how to fly from Clare Hartnett. After he turned 23, Donald was drafted into the Army. While in the Army he served in the ski troops 10th Mountain Division, A CO 87th, E CO 87th. Donald saw action in the Aleutians on Kiska and later in Italy. After he was discharged, Donald went to work for Johnson's Flying Service in Missoula, Montana prior to

starting his own company. Donald owned 2 converted B-26 Bombers which he flew for the US Forest Service.

On the Morning of July 16, 1976, Donald was on a slurry run when his B-26 struck a high mountain cliff near the fire as it was starting its sweep into the fire to drop a load of retardant. Donald was protecting Federal BLM lands at the time of his death.

Mr. Speaker, four men gave their lives protecting Federal land during the Battlement Creek fire in July of 1976. Donald A. Goodman and his crew will be honored by the citizens of the Battlement Creek area for their courage and bravery. I would ask that Congress honor them and thank them for their work.

Don's family should be proud of what he accomplished in his life and what he did for the people of Battlement Creek.

#### WELCOMING PRESIDENT CHEN TO AMERICA

#### HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, today we have the special privilege of welcoming to our country a companion on the pathway of freedom and respect for individual rights. President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan walks with us on the road to expanded liberty and equality. His commitment, to stand up and speak out for democracy on behalf of the Taiwanese people, entitles him to a warm and open welcome in the cradle of liberty.

We hope that President Chen's historic visit will demonstrate to the world that the fraternal ties of freedom are the most enduring, gratifying, and unbreakable bonds between people and nations. America and Taiwan share a noble expectation. We hope to see all the world's peoples exercising their fundamental right to self-government. We believe that democratic principles offer the best chance for stability and opportunity in every country and on every continent. When a democratic government leads every nation, prosperity and opportunity will be attainable conditions for everyone.

In Taiwan and in America, our people believe that, for every citizen, the ability to vote for one's leaders is a fundamental and universal human right. We believe that legitimate governments are granted the right to exercise power by their people. We believe that this grant of power flows up from the governed not down from the government.

Every fair and just government respects this principle. Governments that do not respect it can be neither.

One year ago, the people of Taiwan proudly completed the first democratic transition of power in their history. That peaceful transfer of power is the essence of democracy. It was all the more inspiring because the Taiwanese people ignored a campaign of intimidation that was designed to coerce voters into rejecting President Chen. That Communist bluster failed to move the free people of Taiwan. Once again, freedom trumped fear.

The passion for freedom is firmly rooted in the soil of Taiwan. Taiwan is an oasis of freedom. Several years ago, during a visit to Tai-

pei, I saw the amazing spirit and vitality shown by the Taiwanese people. The principles of capitalism and freedom were blossoming across Taiwan. We are rightfully honoring that passion for freedom by allowing the President of Taiwan to visit America.

The record in Taiwan should be an example for other nations: Freedom and democracy work.

We hope that President Chen and his delegation feel the same emotions I felt when I was in Taipei as they visit the United States. Texas and Houston are America at her best. Texans appreciate and understand freedom. We know that it requires both sacrifice and responsibility. And we are especially proud to host President Chen's delegation for a visit.

We hope that President Chen's visit will lead to enhanced ties between Taiwan and the United States. We share commerce, culture and a devotion to the principles of freedom and democracy. He is a worthy friend and we offer him a heartfelt welcome to the United States.

#### ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT

#### HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 16, 2001*

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, on May 8, 2001, after extensive negotiations, the Senate agreed to a ten-year budget plan that provides for the consideration of significant tax relief and sets in place a responsible spending plan. I was glad that the Senate acted in a bipartisan manner passing a budget that offers immediate tax relief for millions of middle-class families by shifting part of the benefits to lower-wage earners. The Senate's action demonstrates that when both sides are prepared to compromise the American people win. It is unfortunate that the House Republican Leadership refuses to follow the example set in the Senate and work with Democratic Members of Congress in constructing a balanced and fair tax package that benefits America's working families.

I support tax relief. I support lowering the tax burden on married couples by eliminating the marriage penalty and I favor the immediate doubling of the Child Tax Credit from \$500 to \$1,000 per child. We should extend tax relief for working families who pay more payroll tax than income tax and make the Child Tax Credit refundable. Unfortunately, today's vote only offers a solution to part of the problem of high taxes. The House Republican Leadership has chosen to resurrect a tax bill that provides nearly half of the benefits to the richest one-percent of Americans. I agree that we need to lower the burden of income taxes on many families, but I fail to understand why, when presented with the opportunity to address other important tax items, the Republican Leadership fails to work with Members of the other party. The Senate has chosen the path of compromise and embraced the spirit of bipartisanship in crafting a budget that makes room for a tax cut and also meets our obligations. I am disappointed that the House Leadership insists on jamming through an irresponsible tax cut that fails to offer relief for millions of married couples or small businessman. We

can do better and it is my desire for Congress to ultimately pass a balanced and comprehensive tax relief package.

Today's vote is not the final word on providing long-term tax relief to American families. Congress will have an opportunity to consider a package of tax cuts that is fair and that includes relief for millions of other Americans. I sincerely hope that the House Republican Leadership will choose to work with their Senate colleagues in a constructive fashion to incorporate additional balanced tax proposals that encourage savings, help married couples, and allow family businesses to plan for the future.

#### SALUTING FORMER DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONER WILLIAM C. BROWN

#### HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute former DeKalb County Commissioner, Dr. William C. "Bill" Brown, a man whose heart is huge, counsel is wise, and guidance is never misleading. His demeanor commands the respect of all who are in his presence, and his spirit radiates truth, honesty, and an undying love for all people. I want to thank him from the bottom of my heart for his constant support of my efforts to serve the residents of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Georgia. I have never known a moment when I could not look to him for help and knowing this has always been a great source of comfort. I pray that those of us who are to follow in his footsteps, will be wise enough to do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility and consider others before ourselves. I celebrate you now and always in spirit and in love.

#### AMERICAN PATRIOTS

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today, we pause in remembrance to honor all of America's patriots who gave what Lincoln called "the last full measure of devotion." This spirit of remembrance was born out of the dark depths of the bloodiest, most divisive conflict in our history—a war where more than 620,000 men and women lost their lives.

On April 25th 1866, a number of women in Columbus, Mississippi went to decorate the graves of their fallen. Near the final resting places of the Confederate soldiers were other graves—graves holding the remains of Union soldiers who had died on the same bloody battlefields.

Those women wondered who would remember the enemy soldiers buried so far from their loved ones. Moved by compassion, kindness and sorrow, they decorated all the graves they found—those of their own and those of their fallen enemies. Their acts captured the imagination of our entire country and became the foundation upon which our current observance

of Memorial Day is built. In 1971, Congress expanded the Memorial Day tradition to include all soldiers who have died in service to our nation.

Turning back the clock, the great patriot Thomas Paine once said:

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country. But he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

These strong words spoke of a special kind of patriotic devotion and love of country that was needed if the colonists were going to win their struggle for independence. These words have become timeless and have continually rang true in our times of crisis.

However, I would have to say that true patriotism goes beyond waving our country's flag or singing the National Anthem. Don't get me wrong, those are important gestures, but true patriotism demands loyalty to the ideals that lie behind those gestures.

Our American patriots were not born with this pride, nor did they learn it in books. It's a pride that has taken root in their souls, growing greater as they experience the true meaning of freedom, liberty and prosperity. Patriotism is more sincere than attitudes of self-righteousness—it is the guardian of our Constitution. Patriotism is why America has prospered and grown to such greatness in a mere two centuries.

When our country's first army gathered under George Washington in the summer of 1775, it was truly a citizen's army. Farmers, shopkeepers and tradesmen left their loved ones to rid our land of British rule once and for all. There were few uniforms and even less weapons, but these brave men were willing to battle Britain's best troops and Europe's fiercest mercenaries. These first American patriots believed in three essential ideals, independence from foreign tyranny, human equality, and democracy.

It is our American patriots that will bear any hardship, will overcome any obstacle, and will conquer any foe in the pursuit of liberty and justice—for themselves, their children, their countrymen, and others who they will never know. It is our American patriots that have protected this great nation in the past, and will be the author of our bright future. It is our American patriots that we remember today.

Unfortunately, not every American will take time today to visit the graves of those who have been taken by war, but every American should take the time to remember those who gave everything on behalf of our common good. Today from Omaha Beach to Arlington National Cemetery we honor the memory of American veterans whose remains consecrate the soil throughout the world. Let us promise that their lives and sacrifices shall not have been offered in vain.

We must uphold the memories of their heroism with our respect, reverence, and heartfelt admiration. Those who have died on the field of battle deserve our enduring thoughts. It is our duty to make sure America remembers the martyrs of freedom's cause. It is our obligation to keep alive the great hopes of the American people, as they are embodied in the principles outlined in our nation's Constitution.

We cherish the hope that the ideals of peace, freedom and prosperity will light our way through the 21st century. Memorial Day is a celebration of that hope. It is the day we re-

member and honor those who lost their lives fighting for our nation. The men and women we remember on Memorial Day demonstrated the highest form of faith in the triumph of good over evil. Today we pause to remember the 26 million patriots living today who have served in the armed forces, and the more than one million who have died in America's wars.

Today we recognize the power and virtue of their sacrifice. We remember those who gave their lives to strengthen and preserve the invaluable gift of freedom. In the dark hours of war and conflict, American patriots have answered the call, and they're the reason that the United States is the mightiest, wealthiest, and most secure nation on earth today. Should the day come when our American patriots remain silent in the face of armed aggression, then the cause of freedom will have been lost.

Today, 179 of the world's 193 sovereign states elect their lawmakers. That means the earth is 93 percent covered by democracy—a greater proportion than water. Clearly, those who made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom did so for a supreme cause.

However, history teaches us that the world will never run out of threats to freedom. Hitler was defeated and we won the Cold War, but we must continue to contend with terrorists like Asama Bin Laden and tyrants like Milosovic and Hussein. Clearly, future American patriots may be called upon again to sacrifice for freedom.

As you reflect on our nation's past, remember that this great nation was not established by cowards. America has remained the land of the free through the noble selfless acts of our American patriots and those heroes who did not return. Today we honor you and today we remember. May your patriotism endure, may God continue to bless you, and may God bless America.

#### INTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN GOLD STAR PARENTS ANNUITY ACT

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 21, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce The American Gold Star Parents Annuity Act of 2001, H.R. 1917.

This legislation would create a new annuity of \$125 per month for all current and future Gold Star Parents. Gold Star Parents are those individuals who have lost a child, who was an active duty member of the Armed Forces, and subjected to either enemy fire in a recognized conflict or to an act of terrorism.

The annuity is for each set of parents, to be divided equally if they are no longer married. Should one parent be deceased, the surviving parent would receive the full amount of the annuity. This annuity will be tax free.

The annuity is contingent upon the parents being awarded a Gold Star, the eligibility of which is determined by the Secretary of Defense.

Most of the recipients will be members of The American Gold Star Mothers, an organization that had its beginnings in World War I. During that conflict, a blue star was used to represent a person serving in the United

States' Armed Forces. As American casualties mounted in 1917, silver stars were used to represent those who had been wounded, and gold stars were used for those who had died in the service of their nation.

On June 4, 1928, a group of twenty-five mothers residing in Washington DC, met to plan the founding of a national organization, which was officially incorporated on January 5, 1929.

Gold Star membership was initially open to all mothers who had lost a son or daughter in World War I, but subsequently was opened to all those who had lost a child in World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf conflict.

These additions have paralleled congressional modifications to the U.S. Code to permit the Secretary of Defense to award Gold Star pins to the parents of deceased veterans of those conflicts as well as those who lost children in terrorist attacks on U.S. Armed Forces.

Since its founding, The American Gold Star Mothers has played a vital role in the healing process for those who had lost a child. By bringing together those who share a common tragedy, this organization has helped its members realize that they are not alone in their grief.

Furthermore, The Gold Star Mothers also performed the important service of assisting veterans of the last century's military conflicts and their descendants with the presentation of claims before the Veterans' Administration. They also perform thousands of hours of volunteer service in our VA hospitals, offering assistance and comfort to hospitalized veterans and their families.

Mr. Speaker, our country has always sought to look after the surviving spouse and children of a service-member who has been killed in action. Often overlooked however, are the parents of the deceased service-member. This is unfortunate since the parents are usually those who have had the greatest role in shaping that person's life, and will have had the greatest impact on his or her life. Yet, beyond heartfelt condolences, the parents receive very little from the Government that their child chose to patriotically serve as a member of the Armed Forces.

While we all recognize that the Government has some obligation to the widowed spouse and the killed soldier's children, very few have argued on the behalf of the parents who lose their children to war. Only those parents who relied on their child as a primary means of support currently receive any benefit when their child is killed in the line of duty.

This legislation seeks to change that reality. It offers a small annuity to any parent, mother or father, regardless of need, as a sign of appreciation for the ultimate sacrifice made by their child in the defense of freedom and liberty.

Accordingly, I invite my colleagues to support this overdue measure, H.R. 1917.

H.R. 1917

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gold Star Parents Annuity Act".

#### SEC. 2. SPECIAL PENSION FOR GOLD STAR PARENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

"SUBCHAPTER V—SPECIAL PENSION  
FOR GOLD STAR PARENTS

"§ 1571. Gold Star parents

"(a) The Secretary shall pay monthly to each person who has received a Gold Star lapel pin under section 1126 of title 10 as a parent of a person who died in a manner described in subsection (a) of that section a special pension in an amount determined under subsection (b).

"(b) The amount of special pension payable under this section with respect to the death of any person shall be \$125 per month. In any case in which there is more than one parent eligible for special pension under this section with respect to the death of a person, the Secretary shall divide the payment equally among those eligible parents.

"(c) The receipt of special pension shall not deprive any person of any other pension or other benefit, right, or privilege to which such person is or may hereafter be entitled under any existing or subsequent law. Special pension shall be paid in addition to all other payments under laws of the United States.

"(d) Special pension shall not be subject to any attachment, execution, levy, tax lien, or detention under any process whatever.

"(e) For purposes of this section, the term 'parent' has the meaning provided in section 1126(d)(2) of title 10."

(2) The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SUBCHAPTER V—SPECIAL PENSION FOR GOLD  
STAR PARENTS

"1571. Gold Star parents."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 1571 of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

THE FAILURE OF MANAGED CARE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, many of us in Congress—and many of our constituents around the country—have serious concerns about the future of managed care and what it means for the quality of our nation's health care system.

I recommend the attached article for my colleagues' attention. It is written by Dr. Ronald J. Glasser, a practicing pediatrician at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The article appeared in the May 2001 edition of *Washington Monthly*.

As many of my colleagues know, I am a longtime champion of expanding Medicare to eventually provide health insurance coverage for everyone. The article below provides strong support for that proposal.

[From the *Washington Monthly*, May, 2001]

FLATLINING, THE COMING COLLAPSE OF  
MANAGED CARE AND THE ONLY WAY OUT

(By Ronald J. Glasser, M.D.)

Everyone knows the horror stories of managed care; the denied treatment, the preauthorizations, refusals to allow subspecialty care, etc. So there is little reason to mention the motorized wheel chairs denied for patients with spina bifida—"our evaluation team has determined that your patient can walk assisted with braces or walker the prescribed twenty meters in

under the approved ninety seconds." Nor is there need to remind of the termination of skilled nursing care for adolescents with cystic fibrosis—"home nursing care will be discontinued at the end of the month due to the plan's determination that there has been stabilization of your patient's clinical course."

Even as I write this, my home state of Minnesota's largest HMO is refusing to approve a discharge order to transfer a quadriplegic 18-month-old girl to the city's most respected and accomplished rehabilitation medical center because it isn't on the HMO provider list. Try to justify that to your conscience or explain it to traumatized, desperate parents. But these are only the everyday skirmishes. As a pediatric nephrologist and rheumatologist in Minneapolis, I've been on the front line of these battles for 15 years, and I've experienced first-hand the insanity of managed care.

Under managed care, physicians have fared no better than the patients. Despite what the managed-care industry would like you to believe, there is no real competition out there, no real choice. In any urban population of less than a million people, one dominant health plan usually covers more than 50 percent of the area's enrollees. In the larger cities, there are usually only four plans that cover more than 70 percent of the residents. These big plans run the show, shadow each others' prices, and do not easily tolerate criticism.

Steve Benson, a well-respected pediatrician for over 20 years worked in a clinic recently taken over by a health plan. After questioning the appropriateness of the plan's insistence on scheduling patients every 10 minutes, he was told that he was not a team player. But he continued to complain that ten minutes per patient was not enough time to perform an adequate exam, much less counsel young mothers. More pointedly, after he complained that such a draconian patient-care policy was detrimental to the family and demeaning to the doctor, the medical director took Benson aside and told him that he was disruptive. If he wanted to continue at the clinic, he would have to seek counseling with the plan's psychiatrist. When Dr. Benson refused, he was fired.

The plan was determined to make an example of the good doctor. The separation clause of his contract stated that if he left the clinic, he could not practice within two miles of the facility. The plan interpreted "facility" to mean anything owned by the health plan, including depots, warehouses, parking lots, machine shops, and administrative buildings. That meant virtually the whole metropolitan area and most of the rest of the state. Daunted by the prospect of endless lawsuits, Dr. Benson, at the age of 56, was forced to leave his practice as well as the state. There were no more complaints from the other physicians.

CHERRY PICKERS

The lunacy of managed care began with the passage of the 1973 HMO Act. Within a decade, that craziness had grown into a full-blown catastrophe. It is fair to say that, back in 1973, no one had a clear vision of exactly what these organizations were, how they were to be run, what precisely they were supposed to do, or how they were to become profitable and remain fiscally sound.

The original idea was simple enough: Health-care costs were rising for employers and some method had to be devised to control them. What better way than to put together a whole new health-care delivery structure that would focus on keeping people healthy and that would place each patient into a health care "network," based on sound medical and economic principles?

Not surprisingly, though, patients wanted to stay with their own doctors and were re-

luctant to sign up with a health plan that wouldn't let them go to hospitals not in the plan. The imposition of whole new structures and delivery systems would have their own unique costs and unexpected problems.

Still, the health-maintenance organizations had enormous built-in advantages that allowed them to quickly overcome patients' doubts while overwhelming both physician resistance and the skepticism of the business community. First of all, as the name implied, HMOs were never set up to care for the sick—a problem if you intend to be in the health-care business. In addition, HMOs only offered medical care through employers, which virtually guaranteed them a healthy population. The insurance industry calls this tactic "cherry picking."

Full-time employees are the perfect demographic for any health-care company. Eighteen-to-55-year-olds are universally the healthiest cohort in any society; but the real "cherry picking" lay in selling health insurance only to employers, because no one who has heart failure, severe asthma, or is crippled by arthritis can maintain full-time employment. You start with healthy people, and if workers become ill or injured on the job, there's always workers comp.

But the HMOs' real advantage lay in their start-up costs. No one in America will ever see another new car company built from scratch because of the billions of dollars it would take to build the factories, set up the infrastructure, and establish distribution systems. But HMOs were, from the very beginning, given a pass on initial expenditures. The original HMOs were not viewed as insurance companies. In California and many other states, they were licensed under the department of corporations rather than with the state's insurance commissioner.

At first they looked more like what were called "independent contractors" than insurance companies. In fact, that was precisely how the HMOs presented themselves—nothing more than a group of doctors offering to supply health-care services to a defined group of people, similar both professionally and legally to carpenters or roofers offering their services.

Amidst all this initial confusion, managed-care companies were exempted from the usual requirements of insurance, specifically the need for large cash reserves. In short, they could become insurance companies without having monies available to pay claims. One of the largest and most successful HMOs in Minnesota came into existence with nothing more than a \$70,000 loan from a neighborhood bank to rent office space, hire two secretaries, and purchase a half-dozen phones.

This reckless financing led to what soon became a corporate Ponzi scheme. Without adequate reserves, HMOs had to keep premiums ahead of claims, and since premiums had to be kept artificially low to gain market share, that meant what it has always meant in the insurance business: lower utilization, or in the new health speak, denial of care.

Managed-care companies have always used certifications, pre-authorizations, formularies to restrict drug use, barriers to specialty care, limitations on high-tech diagnostic procedures, and the hiring of physicians willing to accept reduced fees to keep costs down and profits up. These restrictions were ignored when managed-care companies covered only a few hundred thousand people, but last year, over 140 million potential patients were enrolled in managed care. HMOs could no longer hide what they were doing.

DRIVE-BY DELIVERY DEBACLE

Managed care's first great PR disaster was the early discharge of new mothers within 24



hours of delivery. Obstetrics was always a financial black hole for these companies. About four million babies are born in the United States every year, and managed care covers the cost for almost two-thirds of the deliveries. The average cost in the Midwest of a standard delivery and two-day stay in the hospital, not including physician and anesthesiologist fees, is \$4,500 for the mother and \$1,000 for the baby. For a cesarean section, the cost jumps to \$10,000 for the mother and \$4,500 for the baby—and the hospital stay goes to four days. And these are the costs if everything goes right.

Do the math: Just assuming all the deliveries are standard ones, with two days in the hospital per delivery, the cost works out to nearly \$22 billion a year. HMOs weren't financially equipped to handle those kind of costs year in and year out. They had become profitable by signing up only healthy people. Unfortunately, healthy people also have babies, and \$22 billion a year was quite a hit on very narrow profit margins. So the managed-care managers got the bright idea that if they hustled mothers and babies out of the hospitals after one day, they'd recapture half to two-thirds of their costs.

Beginning in the early 1990s, HMOs began demanding that their obstetricians discharge women who had uncomplicated vaginal deliveries within 24 hours of giving birth. The plans presented company data proving early discharge to be safe. Medical directors began to track which doctors followed this new guideline. Those who refused or balked were reprimanded or fired. But the data was nonsense. This year, a study on early discharge was published in the prestigious *American Journal of Medicine* entitled "The Safety of Newborn Early Discharge." In the article, physicians from two university pediatric centers not only challenged the managed-care pronouncements of safety, but denounced them as fabrications: "Newborns discharged early [less than 30 hours after birth] are at increased risk of re-hospitalization during the first month of life."

Not only was the data erroneous, but so, it turns out, was the math. Delivery costs are front loaded, so most of the expenses are incurred during the first day in the hospital. Unless HMO administrators somehow managed to persuade women to give birth in taxis on the way to the hospital simply kicking them out of the hospital a day early didn't end up saving the HMOs much money.

Nonetheless, by the mid-1990s, the health plans were in charge, pushing their own agendas and their own data. First, they encouraged and then demanded early discharges. But a funny thing happened on the way to the bank. These early discharges, unlike all the other cost shaving, affected a very large, unexpected and quite formidable group of consumers: husbands. These weren't just any old husbands; they were a very unique subset of husbands: state legislators.

The average American state legislator is male, 38 to 53 years of age, usually four to seven years older than his wife, fiercely committed to family values—and usually, to his wife. All over the country, these men, unaware of the new 24-hour policy, went to the hospital following the birth of their child, and were met at the entrance to the maternity ward or, in some cases, at the doorway of the hospitals, by an exhausted spouse. In all probability, she was in a wheelchair, holding their new child, and accompanied by an aid or an OB nurse who explained to the bewildered husband that his wife and child were fine and that both had been cleared for discharge.

More than likely, the nurse handed the husband a prescription or an anti-nausea medication, and advised him that a representative from their health plan's home-

care division would probably be calling in a day or two to set up an in-house visit or make an appointment with a pediatrician. If anything went wrong, they were to call 911.

The husbands clearly didn't like the early discharge policy, but had no idea where or how to complain. So they called their wives' obstetricians. The doctor would explain that she'd seen the wife in the morning and that, while she would have preferred to keep her in the hospital another day or so, their health plan's policy was to discharge within 24 hours after delivery.

The husband then called the health plan, and after a dozen or so phone calls, reached a benefits coordinator sitting at a computer screen somewhere in another state. The husband, like every husband who called, was rather unceremoniously told that early discharge for uncomplicated deliveries was the accepted standard of medical practice in their community and that the wife's attending physician had clearly authorized the discharge. If the husband still felt concerned, he should write a letter or call their HMO's toll-free complaint number.

It was a big mistake. Legislators and congressmen are not the kind of husbands who write letters or call 800-numbers. Instead, they went back to the state legislatures, and within weeks passed laws stipulating longer hospital stays for uncomplicated vaginal deliveries. Some states refused to allow discharge in less than two days; others gave new mothers a minimum of 72 hours. What was so astonishing about these laws, of which there were some 26 different versions, was not that they were passed so quickly and so unanimously, but that no health plan put up even a semblance of resistance, and none tried to have a single law repealed.

More tellingly, not a single HMO offered up the safety data that they used so successfully to coerce physicians into sending new mothers home within a day of delivery. Faced for the first time with an advocacy group that could do them real harm, the health plans simply caved in and admitted by their silence that they had been wrong. One HMO apologist, the president of the California Association of Health Plans, did try to defend the early discharge policy, explaining that "no one is looking at the big picture, at what will happen to monthly premiums."

The HMO industry took a terrible beating on early discharge, but it continues to try to ration care by restricting both diagnosis and treatments, further limiting mental health coverage, sending stroke victims to nursing homes instead of rehabilitation hospitals, and simply refusing to pay for new, cutting edge prosthesis, while putting more and more bureaucratic hurdles in the way of physicians prescribing new drugs. It is, after all, what managed care does, what it has always done, and what it needs to continue to do to stay in business.

#### THE ANSWER

Over the last decade, I have seen managed care harass and demean physicians and punish patients. Now, it is punishing the business community, once its staunchest supporter, with premium increases of 15 to 20 percent a year. Last month, the president of the University of Minnesota asked the state for a supplemental funding appropriation of \$280 million, a third of which simply covered the year's increase in employee health insurance costs. Honeywell and Boeing have the same problem, only they can't go to the state for relief. They must eat the premium increases rather than decrease health-care coverage and risk losing employees in a tight labor market.

All those original pronouncements of the managed-care industry in the late 1980s and

early 1990s guaranteeing high-quality health care at low and affordable prices have been abandoned as these companies scramble to stay afloat as costs escalate and stock prices slip to new lows. This year, Aetna Health Care, in a letter to stockholders, stated that it planned over the next four quarters to drop 2.5 million members, raise premiums, and cut back on full-time staff. Not a very encouraging business plan, especially for a company insuring more than 19 million people.

Years ago, a few people warned that this market-driven experience was bound to fail. The essence of sustainable insurance, whatever the product, is the size and diversity of the risk pool. The Royal Charter establishing Lloyd's of London, the world's first insurance company, made the point of their enterprise quite clear: "So that the many can protect the few." The idea hasn't changed in over 300 years. A sustainable insurance plan demands a large risk pool so that it can offer low rates and cover future claims. Managed-care companies handled the problems of risk by ignoring the elderly, the poor, the indigent and the needy, but it was hardly a strategy for long-term fiscal health.

Early skeptics of this new industry had watched the growth of Medicare, the government's insurance plan for the elderly, since its passage in 1965 and had no illusions that managed care could operate both efficiently and at a profit. Although an astonishing success, Medicare had also grown more and more expensive over the years. The increasing costs had nothing to do with greed on the part of physicians or hospitals, poor administrative controls, or excessive utilization of services, but plain old-fashioned need.

The creators of Medicare were shocked at the unmet needs that Medicare had unleashed, the hundreds of thousands of seniors who had gone untreated because they could not afford to visit a doctor, much less be admitted to a hospital. The country had clearly underestimated the demographics of an aging population of people who simply refused to die, as well as the astonishing growth of medical technology now able to keep the elderly healthy.

Vice President Cheney's multiple cardiac angiographies, balloon angioplasties, and coronary stents, along with his cholesterol-lowering drugs, beta-blockers and ACE inhibitors, not to mention his blood-thinning medications and anti-platelet drugs, are a testament to what can be done today that couldn't be done in the '60s and early '70s. Sooner or later, taking care of people gets costly.

Managed care had a bit of a head start on controlling costs by only offering coverage to a healthy, employed population. But as that population aged, the demand for service increased and all bets were off. Indeed, despite the bizarre claim-denial schemes the industry has implemented, it continues to lose money. Many, if not all companies, have dropped their sickest members, raised premiums and cut services just to keep in business.

How many more years of increased premiums, ever more complicated administrative hoops and decreasing services will it take to prove that private-sector health care doesn't work? Every survey, from the first nationwide study performed in 1935, has shown that most Americans want their government to support health care to those in need. That's a fact. It is also a fact that we already have a system in place that would provide an obvious solution: expanding Medicare.

While managed care has faltered, Medicare has prospered. Throughout the whole history of Medicare, there has never been evidence that Medicare has ever denied treatment

that a physician considered necessary. At a time when managed care routinely rations care, Medicare has simply paid for what is prescribed.

While it isn't perfect—many seniors still need Medigap insurance to cover some of the things Medicare doesn't, such as prescription drugs—it still offers a good model of efficient health care administration that could be replicated for the rest of America if expanded. Medicare is administered by fewer than 4,000 full time employees to cover some 39 million people. Aetna Health Care, meanwhile, employs 40,000 administrators to handle roughly 19 million enrollees.

Here in Minnesota, every health care dollar is funneled through eight HMOs and approximately 250 other health insurance companies. A recent audit by the state attorney general estimated that as much as 47 percent of that premium dollar is pocketed by these companies before distributing what is left to the doctors, patients, nursing homes, pharmacies, and hospitals.

By contrast, Medicare doesn't have to screw around with manipulating patient claims. It doesn't need a provider network coordinator to explain why a claim hasn't been paid or a treatment refused. And more to the point, Medicare doesn't have to underwrite its own insurance, market its "product," skim off profits, or spend a fortune on advertising and lobbying to keep the playing field tilted in their direction.

There have been times when Medicare has been unresponsive, but it has never been as ruthless or intransigent as an insurance company executive or medical director hack working for an HMO. If there is going to be a so-called tyranny of Medicare, it will be our tyranny, rather than the dictates of some anonymous corporate executive deciding the meaning of "medical necessity." There is no need under Medicare to refer an objection to "the Complaint Procedure Sec-

tion as designated in the booklet explaining the rules of benefits of your Group Health Plan Membership Contract." Just call your congressman.

The nation's oncologists convinced Congress to have Medicare approve payments for outpatient intravenous chemotherapy rather than solely hospital-based treatments. Even more recently, physicians were able to get Medicare to reverse regulations that proved too foolish and time consuming to be practical in the real world. Last month, the nation's teaching hospitals had Congress place back monies that had been removed from Medicare under the 1997 Balanced Budget Act in order to fund ongoing teaching and patient-care projects. When was the last time a CEO of a managed-care company gave back anything?

#### ROTTING CORPSES

But a \$1.2 trillion-a-year industry does not go away easily. Recently, Dr. George Lundberg, the former editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, discussing managed care, put the whole issue in more prosaic terms. "Managed care is basically over," he said. "But like an unembalmed corpse decomposing, dismantling managed care is going to be very messy and very smelly."

But managed care is determined to survive, and it is proposing a number of programs to shift the cost and risks of health care onto the consumer while lifting the burden of increasing premiums off the shoulders of the employers. One method is the "Defined Contribution," where employers simply wash their hands of any increasing costs and give each employee a certain amount of money for health care. If the \$2,000 or so lump sum doesn't cover the cost of a plan that allows employees to see their favorite doctors, or if they want say, dental coverage, they must pay for it themselves.

A second concoction is the "Medical Savings Account," modeled on individual retirement accounts to provide health care by allowing tax-free contributions to cover medical and surgical expenses. Again, there is general agreement among economists that these new programs will so fragment risk pools that those managed-care plans offering these programs but signing up the sickest members will slide into insolvency even faster than the current managed-care companies.

But to hide these structural defects and obfuscate the issue, and to stifle debate of any other rational public-sector alternatives, the advocates of managed care always bring up Canada's health care system as an example of a failed Medicare-type program. What they don't say is that each year, Canadians pay a little less than \$1,600 U.S. per person for health care coverage. We pay more than \$4,000 per American, and the price tag is going up annually. Canada would be able to do everything they have to do and, more importantly, what they would like to do, with what we pay. In fact, we should be able to do everything we want to do right now with our \$4,000.

But the inefficiencies of a system with 2,500 different private health plans virtually guarantees the continued failure of our health-care system to provide high-quality, affordable health care for everyone. For flood insurance to work, it has to cover everyone, those who live on the hills and up in the mountains as well as those who live along the lakes and river banks. If all 280 million Americans are in the same risk pool; if the inefficiencies as well as the predatory behaviors of managed care can be eliminated, we can have the best health-care system in the world, and we can have it now.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 22, 2001 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 23

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine issues relating to the boxing industry.

SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Public Health Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues surrounding human subject protection.

SD-430

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-628

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; a hearing on the Administration's national energy policy report will immediately follow.

SD-106

Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nomination of John D. Graham, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget; the nomination of Stephen A. Perry, of Ohio, to be Administrator of General Services; the nomination of Angela Styles, of Virginia, to be Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy; and the nomination of Erik Patrick Christian, and Maurice A. Ross, both of the District of Columbia, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

SD-342

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Defense and related programs.

SD-192

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Environmental Protection Agency's support of water and wastewater infrastructure.

SD-628

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for international financial institutions.

SD-138

Judiciary

To hold hearings on the nomination of Deborah L. Cook, of Ohio, and the nomination of Jeffrey S. Sutton, of Ohio, each to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, the nomination of John G. Roberts, Jr., of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, and the nomination of Ralph F. Boyd, Jr., of Massachusetts, and the nomination of Robert D. McCallum, Jr., of Georgia, each to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice.

SD-226

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Alphonso R. Jackson, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, the nomination of Richard A. Hauser, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, and the nomination of John Charles Weicher, of the District of Columbia, and Romolo A. Bernardi, of New York, each to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-538

Joint Economic Committee

To hold joint hearings on the economic outlook of the nation.

311, Cannon Building

2 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues relating to carbon sequestration.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine future policy between the United States and North Korea.

SD-419

MAY 24

9:30 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine issues surrounding Congress' role in patient safety.

SD-430

Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine alleged problems in the tissue industry, such as claims of excessive charges and profit making within the industry, problems in obtaining appropriate informed consent from donor families, issues related to quality control in processing tissue, and whether current regulatory efforts are adequate to ensure the safety of human tissue transplants.

SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings on the research and development, workforce training, and Price-Anderson Act provisions of pending energy legislation, including S.242,

to authorize funding for University Nuclear Science and Engineering Programs at the Department of Energy for fiscal years 2002 through 2006; S. 388, to protect the energy and security of the United States and decrease America's dependency on foreign oil sources to 50% by the year 2011 by enhancing the use of renewable energy resources conserving energy resources, improving energy efficiencies, and increasing domestic energy supplies; improve environmental quality by reducing emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases; mitigate the effect of increases in energy prices on the American consumer, including the poor and the elderly; S. 472, to ensure that nuclear energy continues to contribute to the supply of electricity in the United States; and S. 597, to provide for a comprehensive and balanced national energy policy.

SD-106

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 368, to develop voluntary consensus standards to ensure accuracy and validation of the voting process, to direct the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to study voter participation and emerging voting technology, to provide grants to States to improve voting methods; S. 633, to provide for the review and management of airport congestion; the nomination of Michael K. Powell, of Virginia, Kathleen Q. Abernathy, of Maryland, Michael Joseph Copps, of Virginia, Kevin J. Martin, of North Carolina, and Timothy J. Muris, of Virginia, each to be a Member of the Federal Trade Commission; the nomination of Donna R. McLean, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs/Chief Financial Officer, and Sean B. O'Hollaren, of Oregon, to be Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs, both of the Department of Transportation; and the nomination of Kathleen Marie Cooper, of Texas, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Maria Cino, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, and Bruce P. Mehlman, to be Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy, all of the Department of Commerce.

SR-253

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Secretary of the Senate and the Architect of the Capitol.

SD-124

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine transportation safety issues and Coast Guard modernization proposals.

SD-192

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Securities and Investment Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the implementation and future of decimalized markets.

SD-538

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-419

2 p.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine competition in the pharmaceutical marketplace, focusing on the antitrust implications of patent settlements.

SD-226

## Foreign Relations

## International Operations and Terrorism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine issues related to the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

SD-419

JUNE 6

10 a.m.

## Appropriations

## VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the National Science Foundation and the Office of Science Technology Policy.

SD-138

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the legal issues surrounding faith based solutions.

SD-226

JUNE 13

10 a.m.

## Appropriations

## VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the En-

vironmental Protection Agency and the Council of Environmental Quality.

SD-138

JUNE 14

9:30 a.m.

## Governmental Affairs

## Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the nature and scope of cross border fraud, focusing on the state of binational U.S.-Canadian law enforcement coordination and cooperation and what steps can be taken to fight such crime in the future.

SD-342

JUNE 15

9:30 a.m.

## Governmental Affairs

## Investigations Subcommittee

To continue hearings to examine the growing problem of cross border fraud, which poses a threat to all American consumers but disproportionately affects the elderly. The focus will be on the state of binational U.S.-Canadian law enforcement coordination and cooperation and will explore what steps can be taken to fight such crime in the future.

SD-342

## Governmental Affairs

## Investigations Subcommittee

To continue hearings to examine the nature and scope of cross border fraud, focusing on the state of binational U.S.-Canadian law enforcement coordination and cooperation and what steps

can be taken to fight such crime in the future.

SD-342

JUNE 20

10 a.m.

## Appropriations

## VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2002 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-138

## POSTPONEMENTS

MAY 23

2 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Lower Klamath River Basin.

SD-366

JUNE 6

10 a.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the legal issues surrounding faith based solutions.

SD-226